



~~Barre Club 104~~

Sec. Bc. 104



I should you be fully informed of your estate of matters touching
to the benefit of the Embassy Sorbault. So I find, not
with any thing of.

. It is certain that no such notable
practice in working against religion of the world all do not
but fronts, pains, roman and other estates in mind pray
other by its of such mind so great business of a political
Ambassador to foreign parts. I pray you a thousand
God preserve your mother for ever your friend in
good spirit from the world salutation face you in
signifying ^{religiosity} of such. It may be that you be informed
that we, my wife her sister, and so for you and
willing to be your most obedient servant, to give
to you and of your spirit interest of god's blessing
I should take my leave. In witness whereof
of July 1584.

For more and for
of your service
dear remembrance
to you.

I should pray to be
P. Colville

ORIGINAL LETTERS
OF
MR JOHN COLVILLE

1582—1603.

TO WHICH IS ADDED,

HIS PALINODE, 1600.

WITH A MEMOIR OF THE AUTHOR.



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P R E F A C E.

THE work entitled "THE HISTORIE AND LIFE OF KING JAMES THE SIXT" was one of the earliest publications of the Bannatyne Club. It embraces the period from the birth of James in 1566, to the year 1596, with a short continuation to the year 1617; and this is the only complete edition which has appeared. Chiefly in reference to the controversy regarding the conduct of Mary Queen of Scots, this anonymous work had obtained a peculiar degree of notoriety. It was first published at London by David Crawford of Drumsoy, in 1706, under the following title: "Memoirs of the Affairs of Scotland, containing a full and impartial Account of the Revolution in that Kingdom begun in 1567. Faithfully publish'd from an authentick MS. By Her Majesty's Historiographer for the Kingdom of Scotland. London, printed and sold by the Booksellers of London and Westminster. 1706." 8vo. (dedicated to David Earl of Glasgow,) pp. (18,) xxxix, and 378. In 1753, the work was republished under Crawford's name at Edinburgh by Walter Goodall, without any attempt to revise the text; and another edition followed in 1767. It was not until the year 1804 that the genuine work from 1566 to 1582 was published by Malcolm Laing, Esq. as contained in the Belhaven MS., the avowed prototype of Crawford's Memoirs.

In the Bannatyne Club edition, the editor, Thomas Thomson, Esq., has given very full details connected with this work, in reference to Crawford's unjustifiable interpolations, and the detection of what Mr Malcolm Laing calls "the earliest, if not the most impudent literary

“forgery ever practised in Scotland. Every circumstance (he adds) in “the manuscript, unfavourable either to Mary or to Bothwell, or “favourable to their adversaries, is carefully suppressed: every vague “allegation in Camden, Spottiswood, Melvill, and others, or in the State “Papers which Crawford had transcribed from the Cotton MSS., is “inserted in these Memoirs; and these writers are quoted on the “margin as collateral authorities, confirming the evidence of some “unknown contemporary.”

It was indeed a singular piece of effrontery in “Her Majesty’s Historiographer for the Kingdom of Scotland,” to accuse Buchanan of gross partiality and falsehood, and at the same time to “declare solemnly” that he himself had not wrested any words of his author, but “had faithfully published the work from an authentick manuscript.” That Crawford had disingenuously published the Memoirs as a genuine work of the period was speedily detected, although not publicly exposed, by some of the most accurate inquirers into our early history. In proof of this, Mr Thomson has referred to a passage in Bishop Keith’s History; and also to a copy of the Memoirs, with marginal notes by Matthew Crawford, Professor of Ecclesiastical History in the University of Edinburgh, in which David Crawford’s interpolations are pointed out.¹ Another and an earlier instance, which did not fall within Mr Thomson’s notice, is furnished by Wodrow in his *Analecta*. Under the year 1713, when relating various matters communicated to him by George Redpath, he says, “Mr Red-

¹ Keith’s History was published in 1734; Professor Crawford’s Collations were probably made before 1730: he died in June 1736. It may also be noticed that No. 4627 of the Harleian MSS., in the British Museum, contains—“Copy of the MSS. from which Mr Crawford, Historiographer of Scotland, 1706, published *Memoires of the Affairs of Scotland*, from 1567, from the MS. had of Sir James Baird. At the beginning is a Paper supplying the defects, &c.; and at the end a long Comparison of Crawford’s Memoirs with the MS.”—(Harl. Catalogue.)

“ path tells me he discovered the MSS. of what D. Crawford [of Drumsoy] published as to the four Regents in King James's minority, *to be horridly interpolated in his edition of it*, and a great many of his own additions cast in, to make it answer his purposes the better; that he spoke to Drumsoy about it, and offered to meet with him, and lett him see his vitiations and additions; but I think (adds Wodrow) he had not the confidence to meet with him, and within a while was removed by death.”¹

In 1804, as already stated, the genuine text of the History, from 1566 to 1582, was published by Mr Laing, from the identical MS. which David Crawford had employed; and in 1825 the complete work, from a collation of other early MSS., was edited by Mr Thomson for the Bannatyne Club; but in neither edition is any hint given respecting the anonymous author. There is, however, a circumstance which I presume establishes beyond all reasonable doubt that the author of the original work was JOHN COLVILLE, a person of considerable notoriety in his time, and who was personally concerned in several of the events which it records.

To the “Genealogical History of the Earldom of Sutherland, from its origin to the year 1630, written by Sir Robert Gordon of Gordonstoun, Baronet,” which was published at Edinburgh in the year 1813, folio, there is prefixed a “Catalogue of the principal Authours out of whom this Treatis hath been collected.” In this list we find “John Colvin his Manuscrip;” and two passages occur in the work itself as quoted from Colvin (or Colville). In the first of these, Sir Robert, in his account of the death of the Earl of Morton, Regent

¹ Wodrow's *Analecta*, printed for the Maitland Club, vol. ii. p. 219. Glasgow, 1842, 4to. “Mr David Crawford of Drumsoy, Her Majesty's Historiographer,” died on the 16th of January 1708.

of Scotland, A.D. 1581, says, "I will shew what I find said of him. " in a manuscript wryeten by Mr John Colvin, touching the affairs " of Scotland in his tyme: ' The Earle of Mortoun, (*sayeth he*) " was Regent seven yeirs. He excelled in gravity, wifdome, and man- " head, bot wes spotted with avarice and adultery; and indeed the falt " of avarice wes so farr mafter of his affection, that he neither regarded " the cause nor the person; for many forgotten faults did he raise up " againt divers of the nobilitie indirectlie, which they redemed with gold " and money; and also againt rich merchants, whom he punished by " imprifonment, till his greedie appetite wes satified by ther money also. " He raised great taxations over the people, without any good reafone; " and a great summe of money that wes left by Robert Reid, Bithop of " Orkney, to the building and sustentation of a Colledge in Edinburgh, " by punishing of his executors for supposed crymes, he obteyned the " money to himselff, and converted all to the heaping up of his insatiable " avarice.¹ In end, he wes accused of high treason, by Captain James " Stuart, whereof he wes found guyltie, in June, the yeir of God 1581: " and thereafter he wes beheaded at the mercat place of Edinburgh. All " this purpose and plott againt Mortoun, wes devised by William Earle " of Gourie, thefaurer of Scotland.' *This far sayeth Colvin, of the Earle " of Mortoun, in that manuscript.*"—(Page 176.)

That this passage, containing a summary of the Regent Morton's character, is not found in the MSS. used for the Bannatyne edition

¹ This allegation is evidently unfounded. According to an Act of Secret Council, on the 11th of April 1582 (or ten months after the Regent Morton's execution), and an Act of the Town Council of Edinburgh, on the 6th of July 1593, the 8000 merks bequeathed by Reid, Bishop of Orkney, towards founding a College in Edinburgh, remained in the hands of his executor, Walter, Commendator of Kinloss. The Regent's avaricious disposition is, however, sufficiently exemplified at pp. 146, 148, 161, of the *Historie of King James the Sext.*

need excite no surprise, considering the discrepancies that exist in the various copies of the work, and the omissions or additions which were evidently made either by the original author or his continuators.

The other passage occurs under the year 1585, in the minute account given by Sir Robert Gordon of the troubles in the Western Islands, which took their rise in the contentions between Angus Macdonald of Kintyre, and Sir Loughlan Macklean of Duart in Mull, whose sister Macdonald had married. In the course of his narrative he says, "But thair
 " was so little trust on either syde, that they did not now meit in freind-
 " ship or amitie, bot upon thair owne guard, or rather by meffingers, one
 " from another. And true it is (*sayeth John Colvin in his Manuscript*)
 " that the Ilanders are, of nature, verie suspicious, full of invention
 " against their neighbours, by whatfoever way they may get them
 " destroyed. Befydes this, they are bent and eager in taking revenge,
 " that neither have they regard to persone, tyme, aige, nor cause: and
 " are generallie so addicted that way, (as lykwife are the moost part of all
 " Highlanders,) that therein they surpasse all other people whatfoever."
 —(P. 188.)

The author of the "Historie and Life of King James the Sext" introduces an account of this feud, with the above passage, but still exhibiting slight variations from the existing MSS., as follows:—
 " The third commotioun was in the Wester Iles of Scotland, that
 " arraife betuix Angus Mak-Oneill Lord of Kintyre, and Macleane
 " Lord of Ilay. This Angus had to his wyff the sifter of Mac-
 " leane; and althocht thay war brether in law, yit the one was alwayis
 " in sik suspicious with the uther, that of ather syde thair was sa litle
 " traift, that almost fendle or never did thay meit in amitie, lyk unto
 " the common fort of people, but rather as barbaris upon thair awin
 " gairde, or ather be thair meffingeris. Trew it is, that ther Ilandish
 " men ar of nature verie proude, suspicious, avaricious, full of decept,

“ and evill inventioun aganis his nychtbour, be what way foevir he may
 “ circumvin him. Befydis all this, thay ar fa crewell in taking of
 “ revenge, that nather have thay regarde to perfon, eage, tyme or caus;
 “ fa ar thay generallie all fo far addicēt to thair awin tyrannicall opinions,
 “ that in all respects thay exceed in creweltie the maift barbarous people
 “ that ever hes bene fen the begynning of the world.”¹

The mere circumstance of this quotation being given under Colville's name, nearly *verbatim*, may possibly not be considered conclusive; but it should be remembered it is from a nearly contemporary authority. As the work now exists, it evidently could not have been written by the same hand. Mr Thomson has shown from internal evidence that it was written between the year 1588 and 1597; and as the MS. copies of the History exhibit considerable discrepencies, there is little reason to doubt that the author himself, when continuing and revising the work, may have altered and omitted many passages which were introduced when it was originally written.

It might not be difficult to show that the events in which Colville had a personal connexion are treated, in the “*Historie and Life of James the Sext,*” in such a manner as we might expect from a person of his character, after a lapse of several years, and when his own sentiments had undergone various changes. He enlarges upon some points, wholly omits others not so convenient to be brought too prominently forward, and once or twice introduces his own name, without indicating that he was the writer. It is obvious that the value of any historical

¹ P. 217. It is but proper to add that my attention to this passage was directed by the late Mr Donald Gregory, Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, whose accuracy and intelligence in investigating matters connected with the Highlands of Scotland were beyond all praise. I may also take this opportunity to state, that some portions of the following Memoir, and of the above preface, formed the subject of two communications read to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland in 1847.

narrative greatly depends upon the character of the author, and his opportunities of access to authentic materials, if not himself personally concerned in the events which he records.¹ But while this author's narrative and statements may be considered as those of an eye-witness, and thus possessed of considerable historical value, it may nevertheless be safely asserted that greater importance has been attached to his work than it deserves.

Having however found a key to the authorship of the "Historic of King James the Sext," it seemed desirable to inquire more particularly into the events of Colville's own life, to ascertain how far they coincided with the character and sentiments of the supposed author. With this view I collected from the public records and other sources various notices of his life, along with extracts from his letters, during the limited examination which I was occasionally enabled to make of the Scottish correspondence of the sixteenth century preserved in London ; and the result of such an inquiry served to confirm the opinion that Colville was the undoubted author of the work in question. It may be noticed that his true character was suspected even by the party for whom he acted : one instance may suffice. Among the banished Noblemen during Arran's administration, in 1584, was Archibald ninth Earl of Angus. Hume of Godscroft, in his account of the Earl of Angus, mentions Colville in the following terms :—

"While they (the Lords) remained at New-castel, Master John Colvill was sent to attend at Court about their affaires, partly because

¹ The following remarks occur in a review of Malcolm Laing's edition of the "Historie," 1566-1582 :—"Of its author we are altogether uninformed. It does not appear he was personally engaged in the transactions he describes. Our total ignorance of the author's situation materially diminishes the value of his work. The narrative of a nameless individual, of whom we know neither the prejudices, the motives, nor the means of information ; and who might be a recluse ecclesiastic, . . . challenges, in our opinion, less credit than it seems to receive from the Editor."—Imperial Review, vol. iv. p. 545.

“ of his acquaintance there with Secretary Walsingham and others ;
 “ partly by the advice of the Master of Glames, whose opinion and
 “ recommendation the rest did much respect. He fed them with hopes ;
 “ and upon occasion of the preparing and rigging forth the Queene’s
 “ Navie, hee did insinuate by his letters, as if there had been some inten-
 “ tion to have sent it into Scotland for their behoof, which some did
 “ beleeve. But they could not perswade the Earle of Angus of it ; he
 “ esteemed it but a dream, as it was indeed no other. . . . Hee had
 “ almost ever disliked Master John Colvill, and did many times in private
 “ complaine, That hee could not finde that sinceritie in him which hee
 “ wished, and which (he said) was seldome to bee found in any such as
 “ hee was, who had left the function of the Ministerie, to follow the Court
 “ and worldly businesse. And for him in particular, he said, hee was a
 “ busie man, thrusting himselfe into all affairs ; and who sought onely his
 “ particular ends in doing of publick businesse, without sinceritie or
 “ uprightnesse ; which (says hee) when it is wanting, I know not what
 “ goodnesse can bee in him ; and if it bee not to bee found in the world,
 “ as they say it is not, I know not what can bee in the world but miserie.
 “ For mine own part, my heart cannot like of such an one, nor of such
 “ dealing. It is true, hee hath traffiqued with the States-men of England,
 “ and others think fit to use him, neither will I contest with them about
 “ it ; but truly I have no delight in such men.”¹

Finding that COLVILLE’S LETTERS, both as to number and importance, were sufficient to form a separate work, I took occasion to suggest to the EARL OF SELKIRK their publication, as a contribution to the BANNATYNE CLUB. His Lordship, in his desire to illustrate the history of that period by unpublished documents, was pleased to approve of the pro-

¹ History of the Houses of Douglas and Angus, by David Hume of Godscroft, p. 393. Edinb. 1644, folio ; vol. ii. p. 346, edit. 1743, and 1748, 2 vols. 12mo.

posal, and authorised me to carry it into effect. For this purpose, by permission of the Right Honourable the HOME SECRETARY, full and accurate transcripts of Letters written by or addressed to Colville were made from originals in the State Paper Office; and copies were also obtained of such of his Letters as are preserved in the British Museum. With the obliging aid received in various quarters, although the collection could not be said to be perfect, I imagined very few letters of any importance had been overlooked; but, in the delay of completing the volume, a subsequent visit to the State Paper Office served to shew that the materials connected with Colville had by no means been exhausted; and with the aid of Mr Thorpe's invaluable Calendar of the Scottish State Papers of the Sixteenth Century in that Repository,¹ the series has been enlarged with the additional Letters commencing at page 217. Had this Calendar, in its printed form, been available at an earlier period, much time and labour might have been saved; but many thanks are due to Charles Lechmere, Esq. and Robert Lemon, Esq., of the State Paper Office, for facilities afforded in the course of forming the collection. Some valuable assistance was likewise contributed by Mrs Everett Green, in notices of Colville gleaned from the series of Foreign Correspondence in the same Repository.

The Letters, thus collected and printed for the first time, will be found to contain much curious and important information regarding the progress of public events; Colville's communications as an adherent, or in fact as a paid agent, of the English government, affording the most direct proofs of the constant interference of the English ministry with the affairs of this kingdom. The advantage which the late Mr Fraser Tytler, in the latter part of his History of Scotland, derived from these and other contemporary letters of intelligence transmitted to England, is duly appreciated by those who are familiarly acquainted with that work.

¹ London, 1858, 2 vols. royal 8vo.

As an appropriate sequel to the present series of Letters, there is added an Appendix containing various Lists of the Scottish Nobility, which were transmitted to England to shew the state of parties, specifying their titles, ages, and alliances, as well as their personal dispositions and influence. I have also subjoined a reprint of a singular tract which Colville published as a PALINODE, the object of which was evidently to regain the favour of King James, by maintaining his right of succession to the English crown, and for this purpose adopting a most unusual mode, in professing to refute a previous work of his own which had no existence. The Author was indeed a remarkable character, nor are the incidents of his life devoid of interest. Having for worldly motives relinquished his profession as a Presbyterian minister, to follow a political career, it will be seen from the following Memoir that, after many changes of fortune, he became an apostate, and concluded his days in exile, and in great destitution.

DAVID LAING.

MEMOIR

OF JOHN COLVILLE.

THE Scottish family of COLVILLE is of considerable antiquity. The surname is originally from France; and it is the general opinion of our historians, says Sir Robert Douglas, that some persons of that name settled in England at the Conquest, and others in this country, during the reign of King David the First. For the earlier history of the Colvilles in Scotland, it may be sufficient to refer to the Peerages of Crawford, Douglas, and Wood.¹ The immediate progenitor of the two noble families of Lord Colville of Culross, and Lord Colville of Ochiltree, was Sir James Colville of Easter-Wemyss. His grandfather, Robert Colville of Hiltoun, held the office of seneschal or steward to Queen Margaret of Denmark, wife of King James the Third.² During his life his eldest son, of the same name, upon the accession of James the Fourth, was appointed Director of the Chancery, and as such was Keeper of the

¹ Crawford's Peerage, p. 80; Douglas's Peerage, p. 142; the same by Wood, vol. i. p. 360.

² He obtained from James the Third a charter of the lands of Hiltoun, as it states, at the Queen's special request:—"JACOBUS dei gratia Rex Scotorum, Omnibus, &c. Sciatis nos ad instanciam et specialem requestam carissime Consortis nostre Margarete Regine Scotie et pro singulari favore quem gerimus erga dilectum nostrum familiarem servitorem Robertum Coluile dicte nostre carissime Consortis Senescallum ac pro longo fideli et gratuito seruicio nobis dicteque nostre Consorti ac nostro carissimo filio Principi Scotie impenso dedisse concessisse et ad feodofirmam dimississe &c. dicto Roberto Coluile et Margarete Logan sponse sue ac eorum alteri diutius viuenti Totas et integras terras nostras de le Hiltoun cum pertinentiis jacentes in baroniam de Tulicultre infra Vice^{um} nostrum de Claemanna, &c. Apud Edin^r. xvi. die mensis Octobris A.D. 1483, et regni nostri xxiv."—(Reg. Magni Sigilli, Lib. x. no. 89.)

Quarter-seal, or "testimony" of the Great Seal, by letters dated 17th of June 1488.¹ He acquired from one of the daughters and co-heiress of Sir William Colville, the barony of Ochiltree, in 1509;² and continuing in favour during the whole of that reign, he shared the fate of his royal master in the disastrous field of Floddon.³

His son, James Colville of Ochiltree, who obtained the honour of knighthood, was also destined to a long career of public service. He became Comptroller in 1525, and Director of Chancery in 1527. Upon the institution of the College of Justice in 1532, having two years previously exchanged the estate of Ochiltree for that of Easter-Wemyss and Lechoreshire, in Fife, he was nominated one of the Lords of Session, and took his seat on the bench, by the title of Easter-Wemyss. At length he fell under the King's displeasure for affording treasonable assistance and counsel to the Douglasses, and an accusation of treason having been preferred against him, he was deprived of his offices, in

¹ The grant is expressed in the following words:—"Data fuit litera Roberto Coluile super officio Directoris Cancellariæ et Custodiæ Testimonii sive dimedietatis Magni Sigilli, pro vita sua, cum potestate substituendi deputatum," &c.—(Regist. Magni Sigilli, Lib. xii. no. 5.)

² Charter to Robert Colville of Hiltoun of half the barony of Uchiltre, upon the resignation of Elizabeth Colville, eldest daughter, and one of the heirs of the late William Colville of Uchiltree, knight, with consent of her spouse, Robert Coluille, son and heir of William Colville of Ravenseraig, 10th April 1509.—(Reg. Magni Sig. Lib. xv. no. 106.)—Margaret, the second daughter, married Patrick Colquhoun of Drumskeith.

³ In the various accounts of the Colvilles, these two Roberts are spoken of as one and the same person, and Elizabeth Arnot, the son's wife, as the father's second wife. We have seen, from the Charter quoted in the preceding note, that the lands of Hiltoun were granted in 1483 to Robert Colville and his spouse Margaret Logan. James the Fourth, in a Charter dated 13th March 1503-4, contains a new grant of the same lands, in the following terms:—"JACOBUS, &c. In retenci memoria habentes et ex parte cognoscentes bonum fidele et gratuitum servicium nobis per dilectum nostrum familiarem Robertum Colvile de Hiltoun nostre Cancellarie Directorem temporibus elapsis, &c. Necnon considerantes magnos labores sumptus et expensas *per dictum nostrum familiarem ET QUONDAM ROBERTUM COLUILE EJUS PATREM* sustentos et expositos in reparacionibus structuris et edificis per ipsos super dictis terris de Hiltoun factis et constructis," etc.—(Reg. Magni Sig. Lib. xiv. no. 217.)—These words clearly show that the father was then dead. The names of the Director of the Chancery and of Elizabeth Arnot occur in charters dated 14th February 1504-5 and, within a month of his death, the 21st August 1513.

1539. On the 21st of August, he was ordered to enter himself in ward in the Castle of Blackness; but instead of complying with this order, he left the kingdom, and associated himself with the Earl of Angus and his brother, Sir George Douglas. It appears that he died not long after, as on the 10th of January 1540-1, a summons was executed against Margaret Forrester, his widow and children, to see and hear it decerned that "the said deceased James Colville, while he lived, had incurred the crime of lese Majestic, for his disobedience to enter himself in ward," as just mentioned. A sentence of forfeiture was accordingly pronounced on the 14th of March, and his estate was annexed to the Crown.¹

Robert Colville of Hiltoun and Ochiltree had two younger sons, William and Robert. The name of Robert occurs in charters in 1539, where he is styled brother-german of Sir James Colville of Easter-Wemyss; and in 1569, as brother of the late William Colville, Commendator of Culross.² He was Commendator in 1539, while John Colville, probably his uncle, was Abbot of that Monastery.³ William is afterwards styled Abbot, and in 1544 he sat as one of the Lords of Session, on the Spiritual side; and was Comptroller from 1546 to 1550. He joined the Reformers, and was one of the Lords of the Articles in August 1560, when the Confession of Faith was ratified, and he likewise subscribed the First Book of Discipline.⁴ He died in the year 1566.

Sir James Colville of Easter Wemyss, by a charter dated in August 1533, had previously made a destination of his estates, failing his lawful issue, to his two natural sons, Robert Colville of Cleish, and his brother James, styled of Crummy. After the King's death the Act of

¹ Acts of Parl. Scot., vol. ii. p. 368. Crawford, Douglas, and Wood, *ut supra*. Brunton and Haig's Senators of the College of Justice, p. 23-25.

² See the notes in Appendix to Knox's Works, vol. ii. p. 598. I have since obtained a charter, dated 20th February 1539-40, in which William Colville makes a grant of the Salt-pans of Culross to his brother (frater germanus noster) Robert Colvile and Margaret Scowgall, his spouse. In another deed, among the Kineraig papers, he styles himself, "We, Maister William Colvile, usufructuar of the Abbey of Culross, with advise and consent of Johanne Colvile, Commendator thairoff, and Convent of the same," 8th March 1540-1. Two years later William, Abbot of Culross, was one of the *Curatores litis* to the family of James Colville of Easter-Wemyss, knyght.—(Acts of Parl. Scot. vol. ii. p. 436.)

³ Knox's Works, vol. ii. p. 598.

⁴ *Ib.*, p. 258.

forfeiture was repealed by Parliament, on the 12th of December 1543; at which time his eldest lawful son was a youth of eight years. He became Sir James Colville, and survived till the year 1580. He was succeeded in his title and estates by his son, also named James, who distinguished himself as a soldier in the wars in France and Navarre; and was, by King James, on the 25th of April 1604, raised to the Peerage, by the title of Lord Colville of Culross.

Another son of the elder Sir James, Alexander Colville, was educated for the Church. He joined the Reformers, and in 1566, upon his uncle's death, became titular Commendator of Culross, and, in 1575, one of the Lords of Session, surviving till the year 1597. He was succeeded by his eldest son Mr Alexander Colville of Blair, Justice-Depute; and his son was knighted, and also styled Sir Alexander Colville of Blair.

Robert Colville, the eldest natural son of Sir James, obtained from his father the property of Cleish, in the county of Kinross,¹ on the occasion of his marriage with Francisca, daughter and heiress of Patrick Colquhonn of Drumskeith. The charter is dated 15th July 1537. By this alliance, the mother being a daughter and co-heiress of Sir William Colville of Ochiltree, their children became representatives of the male branch of that ancient family, and one of their descendants was raised to the Peerage under the title of Lord Colville of Ochiltree. Robert Colville of Cleish, who filled the office of Master of the Household to Lord James Stewart, Prior of St Andrews, became a zealous promoter of the Reformation. He was the person described as having detected the imposture of a pretended miracle of a blind man receiving sight in the Chapel of our Lady of Alarait or Loretto, near Musselburgh, about the year 1559.² His wife, "commonly called the Lady Cleish," we are told, "was a papist;" and having sent her servant "with ane offering of gold to the Ladie and Saintes of Allareite,

¹ The property of Cleish, which was acquired by Sir James Colville, appears to have belonged to William Meldrum of Cleish and Biuns, who distinguished himself during the minority of King James the Fifth, by his prowess. But his fame rests mainly on Sir David Lyndsay's poem, or romance, entitled "The Historie (and Testament) of ane nobil and wailzeand Squyer William Meldrum, umquhyle Laird of Cleishe and Bynniss."

² Row's *Historie of the Kirk of Scotland*, Wodrow Society edition, pp. 449-53.

with her sarke (according to the custome), that she might get easie deliverie," when in childbed, it was this occasion which led to the detection of that imposture by her husband. He was slain at the siege of Leith, on the 7th of May 1560; and Knox gives him this brief but emphatic character, he was "ane man stout, modest, and wyse."¹

Their eldest son, Robert Colville of Cleish, who married Margaret, daughter of James Lindsay of Dowhill, died in 1584. His grandson, in 1651, as already stated, was raised to the Peerage, by the title of Lord Colville of Ochiltree.

JOHN COLVILLE, their second son, and the subject of the present Memoir, was born about the year 1542, and received his education in the University of St Andrews. His name occurs in the lists of Students, among the *Intrantes* in St Leonard's College, in the year 1560; this entry denoting that he was prepared to take the degree of Master of Arts, most probably in 1561, and students were required before this to be at least twenty years of age. He was educated for the Church, but the precise time when he was ordained is not stated. In the earliest existing Register among the Presbyterian Clergy within the bounds of Clydesdale, he is described as "Mr John Colvin, Minister and Parson of Kilbryde," and as enjoying "the haille parsonage." This was in 1567. Four years later, in some of the new arrangements introduced into the Church, and sanctioned by the General Assembly, we find that Colville was chosen to act as representative of the Archdeacon of Teviotdale, in the election of a titular Archbishop. He had previously been appointed Chantor of Glasgow, agreeably to a presentation dated on the 20th of April 1569.²

In July 1572, Colville married Janet Russell; and an interesting incident, on this occasion, is recorded by James Melville, in his Autobiography. His words are, "This yeir, in the moneth of July, Mr Jhone Davidstone, one of our Regents, maid a play at the marriage of Mr Jhone Colvin, quhilk I saw playit in Mr Knox presence; wherein, according to Mr Knox doctrine, the Castle of Edinburgh was beseiged,

¹ Knox's Works, vol. ii. p. 59.

² See Appendix to Memoir, No. I.

and the Captain, with an or twa with him, hanged in effigie.”¹ In the Register of Ministers for 1574, John Colville is entered as Minister of the united parishes of Kilbryde, Torrens, Carnunnock, and Egleschame, his stipend extending to £200, being “the hail Chantorye of Glasgow, and thrid of the pension furth of the same; he paying his Reider at Kilbryde,” and Readers to officiate at the three other parishes. The parish of Torrens *per se*, was afterwards provided with a minister; but in 1576 and in 1580, the above stipend remained unaltered.

But the duties imposed on the parochial clergy were in no respect suited to Colville's ambitious and intriguing spirit; and as his conduct could not be overlooked, his name was on several occasions brought before the General Assembly. Thus, in August 1575, there was exhibited a roll of Ministers who had wasted their benefices, and made no residence at their kirks. The entire number was twenty-eight, one of whom was John Colville, Chantor of Glasgow and Minister of Kylbryde. In April 1576, he received a summons to appear before the Assembly. In April 1577, October 1578, and July 1579, similar proceedings took place, on account of his neglecting his churches, and for non-residence; and in July 1580, it being inquired by the General Assembly, “What had been done anent Mr John Colvill? it was answered, that he was presently at the point of excommunication.”² On one of these occasions, the Synod of Glasgow having been directed by the Assembly to take order with Colville for deserting his Ministry, James Melville says, that “be his fair civill facions, he fund favour with all excepting Mr Andro [Melville], wha, dealling scharplie with him for his desertion of the Ministerie, gat this answer, ‘*I will nocht profess povertie.*’ ‘O, then,’ says Mr Andro to him, ‘you will deny nocht onlie the Ministerie, but also trew Christianitie.’ This man was Mr Jhone Colvin, first apostat fra the Ministerie, and syne fra trew Chris-

¹ Memoirs, Bannatyne Club edit., p. 22; Wodrow Society edit., p. 27, 1842, 8vo.—At this period the Castle of Edinburgh was defended by Sir William Kirkcaldy of Grange, for Queen Mary; and it is well known that, after the surrender of that fortress in June 1573, this gallant man, to gratify the vengeance of the Earl of Morton, was consigned to the gibbet.

² Book of the Universall Kirk, vol. i. pp. 226, 336, 356; vol. ii. p. 451.

tian religion, to fould Papistrie!"¹ Singular enough, it will be seen at a later period, that the name in cypher employed for Colville was "Poverty."

Notwithstanding the censures of the Church, Colville had contrived to ingratiate himself at Court. In November 1578 he was appointed Master of Requests. In an Act of Parliament, on the 11th of November 1579, Colville, as Master of Requests, is named among the "ordinar officers of Estat."² His name, however, still appears in 1580 as Minister of Kilbryde; and as Precentor of Glasgow, he signs a lease or charter of feu-farm of the lands of Dowhill, on the 5th of June 1581.³

Colville's attendance at Court was evidently the means of his cultivating an intimacy with the English ambassadors, and thus influencing the subsequent course of his life. We can have no doubt in assigning mercenary motives as the cause of his undertaking to furnish private and confidential information for the Court of England. The mode in which Queen Elizabeth and her ministers chose to interfere in matters even of a private nature rendered such information of considerable importance; and it might not have been easy to find a person so well qualified as Colville in this respect. At what period this may have commenced is not quite certain. Mr Tytler has printed two anonymous letters addressed to Sir George Bowes in April 1579, giving an account of the death of the Earl of Athole. These may without hesitation be ascribed to Colville; and they serve to show that he had thus early commenced his career as a political intelligencer. One of these letters is signed 4°, a cipher used by him in letters written in 1582. Some lists of the Scottish Nobility, on different occasions, stating their age, connexions, religion, &c., may likewise have been furnished by him, although only one, so late as 1599, can with certainty be ascribed to him.⁴ This will be found in the present volume.

¹ Autobiography and Diary, edit. 1829, p. 22; edit. 1842, p. 65.

² See Appendix, No. III.; and Acts of Parl. Scot. vol. iii. p. 150.

³ Registrum Episcopatus Glasguensis, vol. ii. p. 588.

⁴ See the Present State of the Nobility, &c. in 1583, in the Bannatyne Miscellany, vol. i. p. 51; and another in 1592, in Tytler's History of Scotland, vol. ix. App.

It has however been thought advisable to begin this series of his Correspondence with the year 1582, when Colville himself appears on the stage in a more conspicuous manner. James Earl of Morton, in June 1581, having been brought to the scaffold, the King's favourite, Esmé Stewart, commonly called Monsieur D'Aubigny, who was created Duke of Lennox, and Capt. James Stewart, afterwards Earl of Arran, obtained the uncontrolled management of public affairs. At this epoch Colville attached himself to what is usually described as the Protestant faction, of which William Earl of Gowrie was the leader. Of his zeal and sincere desire to promote the interests of the reformed religion there is no reason to doubt. At the Raid of Ruthven, in August 1582, when the person of the young King was seized and detained by the Protestant Noblemen, he had some personal share; and we may attribute to his pen the manifesto issued in vindication of the enterprize, which was published under this title, "Ane Declaration of the just and necessar Cauflis moving us of the Nobillitie of Scotland, and utheris, the Kingis Maiefties faithful Subiectis, to repair to his Hienes prefence, and to remane with him, &c. Direit from Striuling, Anno 1582." 16 leaves small 8vo.¹

By his party, who looked to Queen Elizabeth as their chief support, Colville was employed on two successive missions. The author of "The Historie of King James the Sext," as we might expect, at a later period does not enlarge on these proceedings, but the Letters now first collected throw considerable light on his negotiations in England. The first of these missions was in December 1582. On the 22d of December, Bowes says to Walsyngham,—

"After that the King shall be delivered of his care taken in this work for the dispatch of the Duke to Berwick, he is purposed to send Mr Colville to her Majesty, with report of all his doings in these affairs, and to excuse the delay of the repair of Col. Stewart and Mr John Colville in the ambassage intended to her Majesty; with such other offices as may best please her Majesty, and approve the constancy of the good will

¹ As this attempt, in less than twelve months, was declared to be treason, the "Declaration" was suppressed, and this circumstance may account for its great rarity. A few copies were reprinted in fac-simile at Edinburgh, in 1822.

professed in the King towards her Highness. But it is yet in deliberation whether he shall hasten the dispatch of the said two Ambassadors to be addressed to her Majesty, with full reports of all these matters, and with their other greater errands, or that he shall employ Mr Colville in the message aforesaid; and I think the resolution shall be to send Mr Colville with such expedition as he may be at the Court before the Duke shall come to London, except he shall be stayed for the coming of the French Ambassador looked to be at Berwick very shortly."

At this time Colville, by his active and zealous efforts, had rendered himself peculiarly obnoxious to the Popish faction, insomuch that when an attempt was made by the friends of the Duke of Lennox to regain their supremacy, his name occurs in a list of the leading persons whom it was proposed to slay.¹ Mr Tytler, whose History of Scotland furnishes by far the most copious and accurate details respecting the reign of James, says that Colville, who "came nominally from the King of Scots, but really from the confederated nobles, brought letters to Walsyngham from Gowrie, Mar, the Prior of Blantyre, and the Abbot of Dunfermline, the great leaders of that party. On his arrival at Court, he found there his old antagonist the Duke of Lennox, who had brought a letter and a message to Elizabeth from his royal master. This princess had at first refused to see him under any circumstances, but afterwards admitted him to a private interview, in which, to use the homely but expressive phrase of Calderwood, the historian of the Kirk, 'she rattled him up,' addressing to him at first many cutting speeches, on his misgovernment; to which the Duke replied with so much gentleness and good sense, that she softened down before they parted, and dismissed him courteously."²

Colville having obtained an audience on the 18th of January, Elizabeth assured him of her entire approval of their spirited proceedings against Lennox. Her Majesty's answer to his instructions is printed in this volume. But the Ruthven Lords, and the Ministers of the Kirk, had

¹ Letter Sir George Bowes to Sir Francis Walsyngham, 6th December 1582, quoted by Tytler, vol. viii. p. 124, and since published in the Bowes Correspondence, p. 268.

² Tytler's History of Scotland, vol. viii. p. 126.

formidable opponents to contend with. On his return to Edinburgh, on the 30th of January, the King expressed himself as "well pleased with the doings and success of Mr John Colville in his late negotiation in England."¹ In the ensuing month of April Colville was associated in another mission to England, for the purpose of soliciting aid.² The other commissioners were Colonel William Stewart, the Earl of Arran's brother, who soon after became his deadly enemy, and David Lindsay, Minister of Leith. But a change in the aspect of public affairs speedily occurred.

In June 1583, the King effected his escape from the thralldom in which the Protestant or English party, Gowrye, Mar, and Angus, had detained him, and the Earl of Arran returning in triumph to the Court, resumed his ascendancy. Of the confederated Lords, some were imprisoned, others banished. Colville, on the 15th of July, entered himself in ward in the Castle of Edinburgh, to abide his trial, and to make it manifest that his doings in public matters had been good.³ In a letter in the Bowes Correspondence, dated from Edinburgh, the 13th of July 1583, it is said,—“Mr John Colville, looking to be called in question to answer to his accusations, so soon as his health shall serve him to come abroad, still and humbly prayeth her Majesty to have consideration of him, and his true meaning and service; trusting that the same shall suffice to obtain her Majesty's favourable declaration and testimony of his honest behaviour and dealings in actions and causes with her Majesty. The noblemen lately with the King, and all others standing in that action, do wish good success in his cause, as an instrument worthy to be maintained and comforted in his right,

¹ The Bowes Correspondence, pp. 344, 347. In a subsequent letter, dated on the 6th of February 1582-3, Bowes relates to Walsyngham some reports of Colville's interview with the Duke of Lennox, *ib.*, pp. 349, 350.—On the 12th of February 1582-3, Bowes writes to Walsyngham:—"Mr John Colville, lately visited with a sharp and hot ague . . . is now something recovered, and past the height and danger of the disease."—(Bowes Correspondence, p. 358.)

² See *ib.*, pp. 385, 386, 413, 415. See also Bowes's letter in commendation of Colville, *ib.*, p. 424, and *infra*, p. 25.

³ Bowes Correspondence, p. 503.

and whose fall or disgrace will greatly grieve them. It may please you therefore to be the mean that he and his cause may be remembered and commended to her Majesty, with the considerations expressed." This letter was not without effect, as it produced a testimonial in Queen Elizabeth's name in his favour,¹ and obtained his release from confinement.

On the 19th of November, Colonel Stewart appeared before "the Presbytery of Edinburgh, to purge himself of some reports which went of him, viz. that he carried a double message to England; that he proceeded not joyntlie with Mr John Colvill; and that he was the chief instrument of change of Court. Little answer was made to him, but the Brethren praised God *if it was true that he spake.*"² With the view of effecting a reconciliation, permission was granted by the King and Council to certain persons to hold communications with those who were declared rebels; and although Durie and Davidson had protested against any ministers being employed in such matters, the commissioners came to Berwick, and had an interview in the month of December, with the Laird of Cleish, the Commendator of Cambuskenneth, and John Colville. A Declaration of their innocency, and unjust treatment, no doubt written by Colville, was prepared and circulated.³ At the same time a remission was offered to him, and licence "to pass furth of this realm," excepting to England and Ireland, and to remain absent for the space of three years. But the terms proposed had not been accepted, as we find from his letters that he was moving from Edinburgh to London, Berwick and Newcastle. In a letter to his brother the Laird of Cleish, dated on the 16th of April 1584, he says, in reference to the discomfiture of the Ruthven party, "now, when men does nothing but sit down and advise, when it is high time to draw sword and defend, and all lie still in the mire unstirring, and expecting till some friend passing by shall pull them out, it appears well that they either diffide in the equity of their cause, or else are bewitched, and so useless, and that they can feel nothing till they be led to the shambles, as was the poor Earl of Morton." In quoting this

¹ See *infra*, pp. 233-235.

² Calderwood's *History*, vol. iii. p. 751.

³ Printed in Calderwood's *History*, vol. iii. pp. 752-759. See *infra*, p. 43, note 1.

passage, Mr Tytler remarks that "Colville little thought how soon his words were to prove prophetic, in the miserable fate of Gowrie, but so it happened."¹

A projected conspiracy, as it is alleged, by the "distressed" noblemen, and countenanced by Queen Elizabeth, was thwarted by the vigilance and activity of Arran, at the very instant of its execution. It is at least certain, that the Earl of Gowrye was seized and brought as a prisoner to Edinburgh; and although he had previously obtained pardon for his share in the Raid of Ruthven, yet chiefly on this account he was tried, condemned, and beheaded, on the 4th of May 1584.² When Parliament met on the 22d of August, Acts of prescription against the exiled Lords were passed; and the name of Colville appears in the list of persons who were forfeited.³ The Lords who remained at Newcastle sent him with Instructions to Elizabeth;⁴ and his subsequent letters throw much light on the transactions of that period. By the Act referred to, his offices as Chantor of the Cathedral Church of Glasgow, and as Minister of Kilbryde, becoming vacant, these were conferred on Mr William Fleming, nephew of Fleming of Boghall. This grant, dated in February 1584-5,⁵ had probably not been completed, as we find Mr Robert Darroch, Minister, obtained a similar presentation in July 1586.⁶ But the Act of Colville's forfeiture, after Arran had been driven from Court, must have been repealed, and he restored to royal favour, as, in two special grants by the King, on the 18th and 22d of November 1586, he continues to be styled Chantor of Glasgow, and payment is ordered of three years' arrears of his pension as Master of Requests. A precept was again issued on the 12th of March ensuing, for payment of 540 marks, as the annual rent or interest of 5400 marks due to him by his Majesty.

In the end of May 1587, Alexander Colville, Commendator of the Abbey of Culross, resigned in the King's hands his place as one of the

¹ Tytler's History of Scotland, vol. viii. p. 166.

² See "The Manner and Forme of the Execution and Death of William Earl of Gowrye," in the Bannatyne Miscellany, vol. i. p. 89.

³ Acts of Parl. Scot., vol. iii. p. 344.

⁵ See Appendix, No. XI.

⁴ See *infra*, p. 65.

⁶ *Ib.* No. XIII.

Senators of the College of Justice, and “ Mr John Colville, Chantor of Glasgow,” was appointed, on the 1st of June, to the vacant seat, and he was admitted on the following day. But in less than three weeks, finding perhaps that the duties of a judge were no less unsuited to his character and habits than those of a parish minister, he resigned his seat on the bench, “ in favour of his uncle foresaid ;” an arrangement which met with the King’s approbation, and was carried into effect on the 26th of that month.¹ In the same year, he was returned to the Scottish Parliament, as Commissioner for the borough of Stirling.²

In July and August 1589, Colville was present at the Justice Court held at Aberdeen; and in the Treasurer’s Accounts there occurs,—“ Item, be his Hienes precept to Mr John Colvill, the tyme of his being at the Justice Court of Abirdein, lxxj fi. xiijs. iiij d.” (£66, 13s. 4d.) In Lord Burghley’s statements of Monies paid to the King of Scots, from 1581 to 1593, one item is, on the 9th of December 1589, “ To John Colvile, to the use of the said King of Scottes, MMM fi.” (£3000).³ He was employed as Collector of the Taxation granted by Parliament to the King, for his marriage. In connexion with this event, Moysie reports, “ There was ane great propyne⁴ fend out of Inghland to his Majestie of findrie thingis: his Majesties clething and utheris necessaris wer coft⁵ at London be Mr Johne Colvill, and certain merchandis of Edinburgh, and brought in the xxii of September.”⁶

On the supposition that the HISTORIE OF KING JAMES THE SIXTH was the work of Colville, we may conclude it was during this comparatively tranquil period of his life that he employed himself in its compilation;

¹ Books of Sederunt. Brunton’s Senators of the College of Justice, pp. 161, 212.—On the 2d of June 1587, in the Books of Sederunt, is this marginal note,—“ Hic intravit M. Jōes Coluile, precentor Glasguensis loco Commendatorii de Culros;” and a long minute is inserted respecting the “ Admission of Mr John Coluille Chanter of Glasgow in the Abbot of Culros place be his dimission.” His name occurs in three of the ordinary meetings of the Lords of Council and Session, namely, on the 3d, 12th, and 21st of June. But on the 26th of that month, a letter from the King was read to the meeting, “ reponing Alexander Commendator of Culross to his ordinar place of Session, Mr Johne Colvill having dimmittit the same in favour of the said Commendator.”

² Acts of Parl. Scot., vol. iii. p. 524.

³ In the State Paper Office, Feb. 6, and June 1593.

⁴ “ Propyne,” gift, offering.

⁵ “ Coft,” bought.

⁶ Memoirs, &c. p. 79.

and a few years later he may have revised and continued that work. Mr Thomson, in the Bannatyne Club edition, has shewn from internal evidence that it was written between the years 1588 and 1597. It was not however in Colville's disposition to remain at rest; and his expectations at Court being apparently disappointed, he associated himself with Francis Stewart, Earl of Bothwell. This enterprising but unprincipled nobleman was, for some time at least, encouraged in his proceedings by Queen Elizabeth; and this circumstance may have not been without effect by inducing Colville to join him as the representative of the Protestant Barons in the factions which then divided the country.

On the 15th of April 1591, Bothwell was accused before the Privy Council of treasonable consultation with witches against the King. This he solemnly denied, yet he was nevertheless confined within the Castle of Edinburgh, and his friends were enjoined to leave the place, and not to approach within ten miles of the King's residence. The Earl escaped from his confinement on the 21st of June, and was, in consequence, deprived of his honours and offices, and denounced as a rebel. On the night of the 27th of December, Bothwell and his accomplices, to the number of 40 to 50 persons,¹ beset the Palace of Holyrood, with the view of seizing the King and Chancellor Maitland; but an alarm having been given, the Provost and a number of citizens came to the King's rescue, which compelled the assailants to a precipitate flight. James afterwards issued letters commanding all who had assisted Bothwell "to enter and flew their obedience at a certain day . . . whilk they all did for the most part, saving onlie James Douglas of Spott, and Mr John Colville."² Proclamations were issued against Bothwell, but he contrived to evade the attempts made to apprehend him.

On the 28th of June 1592, the King and Queen remaining in the Palace of Falkland, Bothwell, accompanied with 300 persons, made another unsuccessful attempt, by gaining possession of the palace, either to obtain pardon or to seize the King's person. Whether Colville was present on this occasion is somewhat uncertain. On the 5th of that month an Act had been passed in favour of the Earl Marischall, autho-

¹ Moysie's Memoirs, p. 87.

² History of James the Sixth, p. 251.

rising him "to raise the sum of 3156 merkis out of the forfeited lands and heretage of Mr John Colvill, funtyme of Strathurdie, now forfett for crymes of treffone and lese Majestie in this Parliament."¹

In the following year the King had expressed a desire to withdraw Colville from Bothwell, that the latter might be left to his own resources.² But in the Parliament held at Edinburgh, on the 21st of July 1593, Bothwell was forfeited, and this Act was proclaimed at the Cross; yet within three days he quietly secured possession of the Palace of Holyrood, and, accompanied only by Colville, he made his way to the King's presence; who charging them with the intention of murder, they dropped their swords, and fell on their knees, soliciting for Christ's sake pardon for their offences, more especially for the previous attempts in assaulting the Palaces of Holyrood and Falkland.³ Bothwell at the same time offered to submit himself to trial on the charge of witchcraft, or of seeking the King's life, and then to leave the kingdom. Terms of agreement to this effect were made, and signed by the King and several of his courtiers; and next day his peace was proclaimed by the same heralds at the Cross who had so recently denounced him as a traitor. He was soon afterwards arraigned and tried, but was acquitted of the crime laid to his charge.⁴ A pardon extorted in this manner was of little avail, in such unsettled times; and on the 22d of September the Earl and his dependents were again prohibited, by a formal proclamation, from approaching within ten miles of the King's residence, without his special permission. Yet it is said that on the meeting of Parliament, the King intended to grant him a full pardon, and restitution to his estates and honours, upon submitting himself to the royal clemency. In November, John Russell, Advocate (Colville's brother-in-law), and

¹ Acts of Parl. Scot., vol. iii. p. 541.

² See *infra*, p. 254.

³ Calderwood's History, vol. v. p. 256. See letters of Bowes to Lord Burghley, *infra*, pp. 254-257.

⁴ On the 10th of August 1594. See *Historie of King James the Sext*, p. 102-3; *Pitcairn's Criminal Trials*, vol. i. pt. ii. p. 302. In *Calderwood's History*, vol. v. p. 297, is inserted a copy of "The Conditions granted by the King to the Earle of Bothwell and his partakers. after he was purged by the Assise."

Robert Stewart, Sheriff-clerk, were imprisoned for resetting Bothwell and Colville, and were only liberated upon paying a heavy fine. On the 11th of December, Bothwell, Colville, and Douglas of Spott, were "denouncit to the horn," that is, declared outlaws;¹ and this sentence was affirmed by Parliament on the 8th of June 1594, in which the Countess of Bothwell, James Douglas of Spott, and Mr John Colville of Strathurdie, are included as accomplices in the Earl's treasonable proceedings.²

But Colville's services were acknowledged by his English friends; and Bowes in his letter from Edinburgh, 18th of August 1593, submits to Lord Burghley the expediency of his being "comforted and relieved with hir Majesty's bounty."³ "I fynde (he says) his estait fo worne and overcharged with th' expences of his late troubles, *wherin he is not lyke to be hastely relived by anye advancement in this realme.* And nevertheles it is evident *that the present cause shall suffer prejudice without his labour and helpe.*" In like manner, in the Instructions given by Robert Bowes to George Nicolson on the Affairs of Scotland, when sent to the Lord Treasurer, in October or the end of September 1593, he was directed to inquire "Wher Mr John Colvill remayneth ready for her Majestie's service, with expectation of some relief by her Majestie in his distressed estate, promising to accomplish especiall and profitable offices for her Majestie; therfor pray that I may know what comfort to give him, and how to deale with him, and that upon her Majesties gratuitie to be granted to him he may be employed in necessary offices?"⁴

Colville's letters at this period, addressed chiefly to Robert Bowes, and "his Mecenas," Sir Robert Cecyl, who had succeeded Walsingham as principal Secretary of State, are numerous; and they evince his desire to render acceptable service to her Majesty, while he had no desire to forfeit the King's favour. Colville at length was induced to with-

¹ Moysie's Memoirs, p. 109.

² Acts of Parl., vol. iii. p. 636-541; Moysie's Memoirs, p. 109; Historie of James the Sext, p. 251.

³ See extract, *infra*, p. 101.

⁴ MS. Cotton. Calig. D 2. f. 180; Rymer's Fœdera, vol. xvi. p. 222; vol. vii. p. 128.

draw himself from his connexion with Bothwell, who, receiving no encouragement from Queen Elizabeth, had entered into alliance with the Popish faction, the Earls of Angus, Huntley, and Erroll. Such a step was quite consistent with Colville's professed principles; but in taking it he seems to have involved himself in an action which leaves one of the darkest blots on his character. In the "Historie of King James the Sext," in briefly noticing that Bothwell, on the 15th of February 1595, had been excommunicated, it is added, "At laft his brother naturall was apprehendit, callit Hercules Stewart, and was hangit in Edinburgh, without mercie."¹ Other writers furnish more minute information on the subject. Moysie asserts that "at Bothwell's passing out at Kaitnes, his brother, Hercules Stewart, and sum utheris of his favoureris, Mr Allane Orme, and certane utheris, wer execute, to the great regrait of the pepill; for this Hercules was ane simple gentleman, and not ane interpryfer. *Mr John Colvill was his apprehender, and for that disgracit, because he promisit him his lyfe.*"² In like manner Spottiswood states, that at this time "Bothwell now was in miserable plight, being hated of the Queen of England, for his combining with the Popish Lords, excommunicated by the Church, and forsaken of his fellows, especially Mr John Colvill, who had followed him in all his troubles, and knew the places of his refet; *for he had made his peace, and (as the rumour went) betrayed Hercules Stewart, Bothwell's brother, who about the same time was executed publicly in the street of Edinburgh.*"³ Calderwood also records, "In the meane tyme, that the King urgeth the Presbyteri of Edinburgh to excommunicate Bothwell, Hercules Stewart, his bafe brother, William Sym, his fervant, and ane called Trotter, were taken by means of William Hume, *but not without the treacherie of Mr John Colvill, a defertor of his Miniftrie, and after an apofat from religioun. He proposed to Hercules safetie of his life, which was not keeped, and therefore turned to his great disgrace and discredit.* And so much the rather was he suspected, because it was thought he had furnished dittay against some

¹ Page 343.

² Moysie's Memoirs, p. 124, edit. Edinb. 1830, 4to.

³ Spottiswood's History, vol. ii. p. 461.

latelie executed.”¹ This execution took place on the 18th of February 1595. But whatever the general impression might have been as to Colville’s conduct, it seems to have secured for him the King’s favour, as, in a letter to the English Ambassador, dated 1st of March, in testimony of Colville’s “penitent humiliation and promised loyaltie,” he says, “We have turned our displeasour in compassion,” and refers to his having given “honest prouif of his unfeinyit repentance, *be his laite action against some of the principalls, who offendit in the same degree, as he did.*”² James at the same time acknowledges his being in debt to Colville of £1266 sterling, a large sum in those days, and desires that he might receive payment out of the annuity granted by Queen Elizabeth to the King.³ Part of this sum having been advanced to Colville by Robert Bowes, the King signs a precept for repayment of £300, on the 30th of July 1596.⁴

From a letter addressed to Sir Robert Cecyl, in July 1597, we find that Colville was then in Holland, “with his Majestie’s good lyking, under his hand and Great Seall,” for his lawfull affairs.⁵ His earnest solicitations to be employed either there or elsewhere, as Cecyl might direct, apparently met with little encouragement. Whether he ever revisited his native land is uncertain. From his correspondence in June 1599 we learn that he was residing in London, in a state of destitution, offering his services to “his Meeenas,” Sir Robert Cecyl, and anxious to secure the continuance of his favour and the Queen’s bounty. But he seems to have been doomed to bitter disappointment. In the month of August preceding it appears that Queen Elizabeth having resented the favour shewn by James to one of the Highland Chieftains connected with the Irish rebels, the Scottish monarch, with unwonted spirit, replied to the English Ambassador, that if his convicted traitors Bothwell and Colville walked the streets of her capital, he was as free to entertain an Island Chief who owed her no allegiance, and whose assistance was useful to him in reducing the remote Highland districts, which had insolently assumed independence.⁶

Colville now perceived that he had little or no chance of regaining

¹ Calderwood’s History, vol. v. p. 364.

² *Infra*, pp. 143, 144.

³ See the King’s letter, *infra*, p. 142.

⁴ *Ib.*, p. 193.

⁵ *Ib.*, p. 194.

⁶ Letter, Nicolson to Cecyl, 16th August 1598, quoted by Tytler, *Hist.* vol. ix., p. 253.

the confidence of the English minister, and his prospects were sufficiently gloomy. In answer to his requests for employment, Cecyl had charged him with want of secrecy, and with publicly visiting the French Ambassador. In reply, he acknowledges he was not endowed with the gift of secrecy, and vindicates his conduct in his intercourse with the Ambassador; he adds that, rather than be obnoxious to her Majesty, he was willing to seek his fortune in some other place; but he was resolved, whithersoever he went, "*to be a faithfull Englishman.*" This letter seems to have had some effect with Cecyl, who however repeats, that "when your dealing with me was more secret, it gave you better means to discover dangerous practices than now it doth;" and also reminds him of "the wonders offered by Bruce, and what treasures of the Pope's should be intercepted," in proof "that your good will is better than your means."

About the middle of October Colville directed his course towards France, but with what prospects of bettering his condition, can only be conjectured. He still endeavoured to procure and transmit intelligence to England, with the view of making Cecyl aware of his usefulness. He also visited Brussels, on some of his private affairs; but he at length appears to have taken up his residence in Paris, when he was led to renounce the Protestant faith, and to subject himself to the charge not only of apostacy, but of the want of all religious profession. That the state of destitution in which he was involved may have contributed to this change is highly probable; and there was so much political subserviency in his character and actions, that we are scarcely warranted in saying that the sincerity of his conversion has been unjustly doubted.

According to his own account, Colville came to Paris, idibus Februarii 1599 (that is, in the year 1599-1600), to use his own words, "in as wofull and comfortless case as the Israelites wer into when as they fled from Egypt; for whidersoever I could turn my eyes, wes no thing but the fearfull image of Death, my enemies invading, my friends forsaking me." His condition was indeed deplorable, proscribed as he was in his own country, and abandoned by his English employers. It was under these circumstances that John Fraser, Rector of the University of Paris,

a countryman of his own, he says, "while his kindred and acquaintance did stand far off, not caring whider I fuld sink or fwim," took compassion on him, and proved the means of his conversion, and leading him out of the labyrinth of his many miseries. For the benefit of his misguided countrymen, he tells us, he wrote his Parænesis, which first appeared under the following title:—

"PARÆNESIS IOANNIS COLVILLI SCOTI (post quadraginta annorum errores in gremium Sanctæ Catholicæ Romanæ Ecclesiæ quasi postliminio reuerſi) ad suos Tribules & Populares. Parisiis, e typographia Steph. Prevoſteau, via D. Ioan. Later. in Collegio Cameracensi. M.DC.I.," sm. 8vo, pp. xv. 94, and a page of errata. It is dedicated, "Mæcenati meo observandissimo," M. de Gondy, Bishop of Paris, and dated the calends of October 1601. In the following year, the same work appeared in the vernacular tongue for the special benefit of his countrymen, although it probably had very little effect, as few copies may ever have found their way into Scotland. It is entitled,

"THE PARÆNESE or admonition of Io. COLVILLE (laitly returnit to the Catholique Romane Religion, in vvhilk he vas baptesit and brocht vp till he had full 14 years of age), vnto his cuntrey men. At Paris, in the Typographie of Stephanus Preuoſteau in S. Io. de Lateran, befyid the College of Cambrey, 1602," small 8vo, title, 41 leaves, and pp. 166. It was licensed on the 2d of August 1601, as containing nothing contrary to the Catholic faith or good manners, by G. Bishope, Doctor of the Sorbonne, John Boseuile, B.D., John Fraser, S.T.B., and James Cheyne, Canon of the Cathedral Church of Tournay. Prefixed is a long address "To my dearly belouit brethring the Ministres of Scotland," dated at Paris the calends of March 1602. In this, unlike the usual tone of such converts, he says, "I am still resolute to love you, howsoever you mislyke me;" but no allusion is made to himself as having ever been in the ministry.

But in the interval between Colville's conversion and the publication of his Parænesis, he had made a pilgrimage to Rome, and written another work, with the evident intention of regaining the favour of his old master and sovereign King James. The advanced age of Queen Elizabeth gave promise, at no very distant period, of his succession to the

English throne. The subject had been keenly agitated, not only in the well known work by Father Parsons, under the name of Doleman, but in treatises by Wentworth, John Ceeyl the Jesuit, and other anonymous writers, circulated in manuscript. Colville no doubt thought this a suitable occasion for recommending himself to his Majesty's favourable consideration. For this purpose he adopted a strange and rather bold measure in advocating the claims of the Scottish monarch, by professing himself the author of a treatise which had opposed such claims, and now writing his Palinode or Recantation of a work which there is every reason to believe never had any existence. Archbishop Spottiswood, who must have been personally acquainted with Colville, asserts this in his History of the Church, under the year 1599: his words are,—“At this time came forth sundry discourses touching the Succession of the Crown of England, some oppugning, some maintaining the King's title. Amongst others Mr John Colvill, taking upon him one of the opposite treatises, did publish a Recantation, wherein having confuted all the contrary reasons, he professed *that of malice, in time of his exile, he had penned the Treatise, which then out of conscience he refuted.* This was believed of many, and helped greatly to discredit the adversary writings; *yet was he not the Author of that which he oppugned;* only to merit favour at the King's hands he did profess the work that came forth without a name to be his: and indeed a more pithy and persuasive Discourse was not penned all that time in that subject.”¹

From an advertisement, signed “A. C.,” prefixed to the Palinode, we learn that the Author, most humbly upon his knees, in the presence of the Earls of Argyle and Crawford, delivered a copy of it written and signed with his own hand, to James Beaton, the exiled Lord Archbishop of Glasgow, but who acted as Ambassador at the Court of France, earnestly craving his Lordship would vouchsafe to present it to his Majesty: “Not in any hope that in reason he could conceive of any favour or pardon from his Highness thereby, but rather to disburthen his own fraughted conscience, pressed down with a weight of sorrow heavier than the Mountain Æthna.” This pretended Recantation was accordingly transmitted to Scotland, and gave much satisfaction

¹ Spottiswood's History, vol. iii. p. 80.

to the King, as stated in a letter from Nicolson the English resident to Sir Robert Cecyl, of which the following is an extract:—

IT MAY PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

1600.
July 22.

The same morning the King came hither, he received letters from the Bishop of Glasco, with a booke written with Mr John Colvill's hand, and so subscribed, containing his confession and sorrow for offending the King, his malice and dissimulation therein, what he hath spoken, don, and written against him, how depely he hath offended the King and God, against his conscience, as unles he dyed upon a scaffold he could not be saved, that he will come hither and do so. He settes out the Kingis title, and condemnes all he hathe don against it and all others, and exhortes his good frendes of England, to whom he saies he is much beholden, to take the King for right heire, sayeing, He is so good a man for them, &c. The King is very glad at it, commendes it highly, and saith it shalbe printed; yet quietly saies, Mr John is gone mad, or wilbe mad. The Bishop of Glasco hathe written, and my Lord of Mar hathe spoken far in his favour to the King, but all men cry out on him for blasing him selfe for suche a hipoerate and villaine. In one pairte he suies that as Elias cast of his cloke to th'end he might the sooner and easier go up to heaven, so he castes of his dissimulacion and hipoericy, that he may the sooner and easier come to repentance.

There is also a printed booke comed to the King, intituled "A Counterefeit Discourse betwene Travailers," &c., said to be written and sent by Henry Constable. It is against Doleman, but Persons he termes him, against them and their reasons that wold not have her Majestie name her successour in favour of the King and his title, and in favour of the Pope's authority in suche cases.

1600.
Aug. 5.

MR JOHN COLVILL's booke is in printinge, which shortly I thinke to sende your Honor. By the epistle, written by one subscribing A. C., your Honor will see what further they wold be at with him, and have of him.

The tract in due time was published, under this title: "THE PALINOD OF JOHN COLVILL, wherein he doth penitently recant his former proud offences, fpecially that treasonable difcourse latelie made by him againt the undoubted and indeniable title of his dread Sovereign Lord King JAMES the Sixt, unto the Crowne of England, after deceafe of her Majesty present. Edinburgh, printed by Robert Charteris. 1600," small 8vo, 20 leaves. As the original tract is very uncommon, it has been reprinted, page for page, in the present volume. But the Author seems to have derived no advantage from this attempt, and must have felt no small disappointment, notwithstanding he speaks of himself "as

ane man abhorring all ambition, unfit for any preferment, scornng all flatterie, fearing no temporall feare, nor establiſhing my felicitie upon fragill worldlie experances. For my foote is alreadie in the grave. . . . Age and sickneſſe, the ſergeants of death, already charges me, perſonallie apprehended (leaſt I ſhould pretend ignorance), to pay the debt of nature.”

In connexion with Colville's profeſſion of the Popiſh religion, we may notice his viſit to Rome. The Brief of Pope Gregory XIII. in 1582, abolishing the Julian Calendar, announced the Jubilee year for 1600. Againſt this calculation Robert Pont, Miniſter of St Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, published “A newe Treatiſe of the Right Reckoning of Yeares,” &c. in 1599; and he refers to “the vanity of divers men of this Ile, who minde (intend) to viſit that idol the Pope, and to be preſent in Rome only to ſee this yeare of Jubilee.”¹ We have Colville's own authority for ſtating that he was at Genoa the year² of the Jubilee; and that he ſaw the Pope (Clement VIII.) waſh the feet of the pilgrims at Rome: when there, he ſeems to have lodged in the Hoſpital of the Trinity.³

The following extracts, chiefly from the correſpondence of Sir Ralph Winwood, throw much light upon Colville's ſubſequent career:—

SIR RALPH WINWOOD TO SIR HENRY NEVILLE.

PARIS, *July 17, 1600, O. S.*

THE Maſter of Gray will have been with you before theſe letters. He goes into Flanders, where if he find any condition he will ſtay, if not he will tranſport himſelf with

¹ See alſo Fraſer's “Offer maid to a Gentleman of Qualitie,” pp. 167, 168, &c. Paris, 1604, 8vo.

² In mentioning the labours of the Jeſuit Miſſionaries in Java, Barbary, and Brazil, “even among the cruell canibelles, (Colville adds), of whilk religion I did ſee, in the laſt year of Jubilee 1600, about a 16. reverent perſons, Jeſuites and Cordeliers, embarque for the ſame effect at Genoa: bot we ar ſo far from any ſuch reſolution, as I wold wiſe of God, that we wold only go bot to the Iſielands and borders of our owne realme to gain our awin cuntrymen, *who. for lack of prechers and miniſtration of the Sacraments. muſt with tyme becum either Infidells or Atheiſts.*” (Parèneſe, Paris, 1602, ſign. ee.ij.) It might have been well had Colville himſelf acted upon ſuch a ſuggeſtion, when neglecting his parochial charge as miniſter of Kilbryde.

³ Colville's Parèneſe, pp. 50, 106, Paris, 1602.

bag and baggage into England. He doth declare himself a practiser against his King, and I fear least he doth wrong your Lordship and Mr Edmonds, professing to have intelligence with you both. Poverty (Colvell) doth go to Masse, and tells me he must temporize, otherwise he shall do no service. I referred his conscience to himself. I told him the service rested only in this, to procure into your Lordship's hands the warrant for these proceedings, attested as you know; which he promiseth now to do. He desires to have his Wife out of England. I wished him to consider what means he had to fetch her; what means to maintain her; and if he went this journey, what discretion it was to leave her in a country void of maintenance and of acquaintance. He hath written (as he saith) to your Lordship, that yf she may be conveyed to Diepe, he will be no more chargeable either for her or himself, untill this service be fully performed. I wish you were honestly delivered of him.¹

SIR HENRY NEVILLE TO WINWOOD.

From BULLOIGNE, 23d July 1600, O. S.

I distrust Colvel every day more and more: I will quit myself of him.²

LONDON, 28th August 1600.

I RECEIVED yesterday letters from Poverty (Colvel), by his owne boy that came from Bulloigne. He writes that he was setting forwards towards Lyons, and would see you there, and deliver you a note of the heads that the negotiators that were to go to Rome from Scotland are to treat there. If that, or the letter so long expected, may be had, it will be somewhat worth; but otherwise I would have him knowe that I am weary of promises without effect, and will be drawn into no further charge till I see some particulars that may deserve it; for I have been hitherto intertayned with generalities, of no great importance. But if he perform any reall service, it shall be really acknowledged; in the mean time I suspend both my judgment and my purse.³

WINWOOD TO NEVILLE.

GRENOBLE, 13th September 1600, O. S.

Colvel hath found me out here at Grenoble, who goes with his complices to Rome; by these enclosed your Lordship shall understand what their purpose is. The presumption is strong that (blank) is employed in this business.⁴

GEORGE NICOLSON TO SIR ROBERT CECYLL.

12th November 1600.

THE brutes go, and it is openly preached and before the K[ing], that dyers Semenaries and Jesuits are also commed in, as Father Gordon and others. It is saide Mr John Colvill is gone with others to Rome; and I heare that the young Laird of Bonington (Wood by name) is preparinge to go to Rome, and is to have employment from 16. (the King of Scots) thither, but of this I can give no assurance.⁵

¹ Winwood's Memorials, vol. i. p. 229.

² *Ib.* p. 231.

³ *Ib.*, vol. i. p. 250.

⁴ *Ib.* p. 256.

⁵ State Paper Office Letters.

WINWOOD TO SECRETARY CECYLL.

PARIS, 23d March 1600[-1], O. S.

HERE is in this Town one John Colville, a Scottish gentleman, whom Sir Henry Neville did much use. He is able to doe good service, and I find him willing and faithfull. Yf occasion did so requyre, I think he would not refuse to goe into Spayne for your service; but withall he is poore, and hath a Wife in England, whom he would be glad might fynd some reliefe. Some curtesies he hath had from me, but my state is not able to sustain his necessity. He is now going to Bruxelles, sent by the Bishop of Paris, but doth return within 20 days. I have praied him to be informed of these generall heades: Yf there be anything intended from those parts against England, eyther seperately from thence, or with th' assistance of Scotland? What supplies are intended for Ireland? The strength of the Archduke in men, arms, money? Who most doth govern his counsaills both for war and peace? What sommes of money are expected from Spayne? The preparations in Spayne for souldiers and shipping, and in what porte the shippes do nowe ryde?¹

PARIS, 20th April 1601, O. S.

THIS which berewith your Honor shall receive, I received from Poverty (Colvel), at his return from Bruxells.²

NICOLSON TO CECYLL.

4th December 1601.

I do heare that Mr John Colvill is in hope of employment by the Archduke.³

WINWOOD TO CECYLL.

PARIS, 10th April 1602, O. S.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

I have often sollicitod Colvell to discover, yf during his abode in Flaunders, he knew any now in England which are pensionaries to the enemy, or any other that holdeth intelligence with him. Now this last weeke falling into the same discourse, he named unto me one William Sterrille, who, as he saith, for many years hath had correspondence, first with Thomas Fitzherbert, and since with Owen, and Sherwood a Preist, and doth receive a pension by their meanes. I heretofore have known one of that name, some time of Magdalen Colledge, in Oxford, and since belonging to the Earle of Worcester; but whether he be the same man I dare not affirm. Herewith I send your Honor many of his letters, though signed with a contrary name; and the cifres and adress of Sherwood, with an acquitance of money received; all which the party above named delivered to me yesterday in the afternoon. I have thought it convenient to advertize this apart from my ordinary dispatch.⁴

¹ Winwood's Memorials, vol. i. p. 310; and orig. S. P. O.² Ib. vol. i. p. 318.³ State Paper Office Letters.⁴ Winwood's Memorials, vol. i. p. 404.

In the "Album Amicorum" of George Strachan,¹ among the number of his countrymen whom he met in his travels on the Continent, was Colville, who inscribed his name in the following terms:—

4. Calendis Junijs 1603.—*In spe contra spem.*

Euryalus mihi sis, et sum tibi Nisus ego.

Egregio viro Domino Georgio Strachano in aeterna amicicia tesseram scripsit sui amantissimus,

JOHANNES COLVILLUS.

Piores et potentiores habes amicos, magis amicum neminem. Accipe quo semper finitur epistola verbo, atque meis discent ut tua fata. Vale.

The Duke of Sully was sent on an embassy to London in² 1603, to congratulate King James on his accession to the English throne. In his Memoirs, after referring to the regulations which the King meditated in regard to the Roman Catholics, he adds the following anecdote:—"The Pope, on his side, did not show himself inflexible of this preference [supposed to be exhibited by King James I.]: one Colvil having dedicated a book to him [the Pope], which he had written against that Prince, when only King of Scotland, his Holiness would neither receive the work, nor permit the Author to stay at Rome. Henry [IV. of France] had acquainted me with this circumstance, that I might, if I thought proper, relate it to the King of England. He had been informed of it in the letters which my brother [Count de Bethune] wrote to him from Rome."³

Among other persons of distinction with whom Colville became acquainted during his residence abroad, was the President De Thou, or Thuanus. When engaged upon the latter portion of his History, he had been advised by Camden, in treating of the affairs of Scotland in

¹ This interesting volume is now, I believe, in the possession of the Right Rev. Dr Kyle, Roman Catholic Bishop, Presholme.

² In Colville's Advertisements, 18th August 1599 (*infra*, p. 202), the foot-note refers erroneously to the Duke of Sully as having been sent on a private embassy to Scotland. It was his brother. Sir H. Neville, in May 1599, writes,—“The French King determined to send into Scotland Monsieur de Betunes, *brother to Monsieur de Rhosni* ;” and on the 22d of October, “Monsieur de Betunes is returned out of Scotland.”—(Winwood's Memorials, vol. i. pp. 24, 124).

³ Memoirs, vol. iii. p. 178; Bohn's edit., vol. ii. p. 388.

1566, to proceed cautiously, and to take a middle course as the safest, in speaking of the Hamiltons, the Earl of Murray, and of matters in which the Queen's reputation was concerned. Thuanus replied, that he would willingly pass over the events of Queen Mary's reign if he could; but in his desire to be impartial, he thought it advisable to compare Buchanan's statements with those of some Roman Catholic, who, he thought, would not likely speak of the Regent Murray and his party in the most favourable terms. When the work appeared, the English monarch expressed great dissatisfaction, and directed Isaac Casaubon to write to Thuanus on the subject. This was in 1612, and it is from the reply of the French Historian to Casaubon we learn that Colville was the person whom he had consulted.¹

That Colville's conversion to Popery in 1600 was sincere at the time, although he was impelled to it by his depressed circumstances, may by a great stretch of charity be supposed; it however appears very suspicious, when we examine the postscript of his letter from Rouen, 20th of October 1599,² and his excuses to Winwood in July 1600, for going to Mass, because "*he must temporize, otherwise he shall do no service.*"³ He even says, that in furtherance of his undertakings, he "*hazards both body and soul.*"⁴ But his new friends, Fraser and others, seem to have discovered that their neophyte was acting abroad the same game which he so long practised at home, in giving secret intelligence to the English Ambassador, Sir Thomas Parry, as he previously had been accustomed to Hunsdon, Bowes, Walsynghame, and Cecyl. In a letter to Cecyl, dated at Paris, 12th May 1603, Henry Lok vindicates himself from some false imputations, "which I suppose none but such impostors as that shifting society of Colvil or Nicolson could or wold have quined, from both which how carefully I haue kept

¹ See Thuani Historia, vol. vii. in the 5th division, "De Thuani Historiæ Successu apud Jacobum I. Magnæ Britanniæ Regem."—Collinson's Life of Thuanus, p. 142. Love's "Vindication of Mr George Buchanan," Edinb. 1740, 8vo. Ruddiman's "Animadversions on a late pamphlet, entitled 'A Vindication,'" &c., pp. 26, 30, Edinb. 1749, 8vo. Goodall's Examination, &c., vol. i. p. xxii. Dr Irving's Memoirs of Buchanan, p. 306, 2d edit. Edinb. 1817, 8vo.

² Infra, p. 211.

³ Supra, p. xxxii.

⁴ Infra, p. 301.

myself theas many years, having bin so depely bitten before by thaire dremed praçifes, I know I can make visible, though thaimselfs wold cownterfeit never so coningly, which is thair profession; having never sent nor resaived any intercoors of intelligens from the one fins his apostasi from God and native alegeans to his Prius," &c. "Your Honour hath Manners with you; and I dowbt not but your Honour may caws him to reveale Colvil's doble dealing lately and dayly with your Honour."

A notice of the same suspicious conduct on the part of his nephew occurs in a letter from Sir Charles Cornwallis to the Earl of Salisbury, Principal Secretary to his Majesty, dated Valladolid, 9th July 1605, O.S.:—

"Here hath been lately, out of the same countrie (Scotland), one Colvill of Conde, nephew to one Mr John Colvill, who came, as he reported, to offer a service to the King of Spaine, which was a drawing of the Prince (Henry) to the Roman Religion, directed thereunto, as he said himselfe, by Sir Thomas Challoner and Sir David Foules. At first it was suspected that he had instructions from them; but after it appeared that his papers were his owne writing, and no doubt his owne invention, to drawe some crownes from these credulous people."

In addition to the works already mentioned, Colville's name is connected with a Funeral Oration on the death of Queen Elizabeth, and two Latin poems, under the following titles:—

"ORATIO FUNEBRIS Exequiis Elizabethæ nuperæ Angliæ, Hiberniæ, &c. Reginæ Destinata. Per Iohannem Colvillum Britannum a Fisa. Parisiis, ex typographia Steph. Prevosteau, via Divi Ioan. Lateran. in Collegio Cameracensi. Decimo Cal. Ianuar. 1604." 8vo, pp. xii, 47. It is dedicated by the author to Mathews, Bishop of Durham, "Illustriſſimo Antifiti, Domino ac Patrono meo singulari, Domino Tobie Mathæo Dunhelmenſi Episcopo," &c., dated "Parisiis, decimo Calend. Ianuar. 1604," and signed "Amplit. tuæ Cliens obsequentiſſimus Ioannes Colvillus Britannus a Fisa." On the title page he pays a compliment to King James, in this distich,—

¹ Winwood's Memorials, vol. iii. p. 87.—The person alluded to was perhaps David Colville, who was educated at Doway, and entered the Scots College of Rome in 1608, and became a distinguished scholar. He was Professor of Hebrew, and Keeper of the Escorial Library. In 1627, he had a pension of 600 ducats from Philip IV. of Spain.

Miro eano; sol occubuit, nox nulla sequuta est;
Mortua virgo parit; fit rosa bina leo.

And in the text he introduces a translation of the lines written by Thomas the Rhymer, three hundred years ago, he says, if he mistakes not, pointing out the son of a French Queen, the ninth in degree of the Bruce's blood, as the ruler over the Island of Britain.

“*IN OBITU Beatiss. Papæ Clementis Octavi Laerymæ JOANNIS COLVILLI Scoti. Eiusdem in felicissima Assumptione Beatiss. Papæ Leonis Vndecimi Gaudia. Parisiis, ex typographia Steph. Prevosteau, via D. Ioan. Later. in colleg. Camer. m.dc.v*” 4to, pp. 22. In a copy of this tract, in my possession, bound with David Echlin's “*Ova Paschalia*,” printed at Paris, in 1602, corrected by the Author for a new edition, the above tract has the name of Colville both on the title, and at page 5, erased, and that of Echlin substituted, with the evident intention of reclaiming these as his own composition; but the reader may be left to draw his own conclusion respecting the authorship. Pope Clement the VIII. died on the 3d or 5th of March 1605. Leo XI., who was elected Pope on the 1st of April, died on the 27th of the same month, and these poems, dated Paris 16 Cal. Maias (or the 16th of April), must have appeared previous to any intimation of the Pope's death having reached Paris. His successor, Pope Paul V., was elected on the 16th, and introned on the 29th of May the same year; and this event produced another poem of 154 lines, entitled,—

“*IN Felicissima Inauguratione Beatissimi Papæ Pauli Quinti Gratulatio JOANNIS COLVILLI Scoti. Parisiis, apud Dionysium Binet, prope Portam Sancti Marcelli. 1605.*” 8vo, 4 leaves.

But all the tears and congratulations of the Author on such public events appear to have failed in their object of securing him any permanent advantage; and the varied trials, the ambitious schemes, and disappointed hopes of this “busy-brained Scot” were now drawing to a close. Dempster, who may have been personally acquainted with him, states, that on a journey to Rome he died in the year 1607;¹ we know however from undoubted evidence, that this date is erroneous, and that Colville died at Paris in November 1605. In a letter of Dudley Carleton

¹ *Historia Ecclesiastica Gentis Scotorum*, p. 197, Bononiæ, 1627. 4to.

to John Chamberlain, dated from Paris, he communicates this intelligence:—1605, November $\frac{1}{2}$ o. “Old JOHN COLVILL, that bufy-brain’d Scot, who trubled our King fo much in confort with the Earl Bothwell, having an ambition to be made Chancellor of Scotland, and ever since lived in exile, *is dead in this towne, within few dayes, in great want and misery.*”

In regard to Colville’s domestic history, a few words may be added. We have already noticed his marriage in 1572. Among some old Culross papers in my possession, one is a contract between Maister John Colville, Chantour of Glasgow, and Janet Russell, his spouse, on the one part, and John Brown on the other part, of the Salt pans, with the houses, &c., pertaining to Colville, in the lordship of Culross, dated 23d December 1578.¹ On the 10th of the same month, Colville and his spouse had granted to Brown an assignation of the reversion of a rent of 40 merks out of the Salt pans. Alexander, Commendator of Culross, confirms a charter by the said parties, 13th October 1583. In the Register of the Great Seal, is a charter of confirmation to Mr John Colville, Preeentor of Glasgow, and Janet Russell, his spouse, of an annualrent of the lands of Buckhaven, in Fife, 22d November 1586. She is mentioned as coming by sea to London to meet her husband, in August 1599; and in the affectionate letter addressed to her on his return to Paris in Mareh 1601, he laments that she should be subjected to distress in consequence of his imprudence. How long she may have survived is uncertain. Her brother, Mr John Russell, advocate, was a person of some note. On the entrance of Queen Anna into Edinburgh on the 19th of May 1590, Russell delivered a Latin oration in the name of the Magistrates and Citizens of Edinburgh, which

¹ The following is a facsimile of his signature:—

Maister John Colville
Hamb & Co

was printed at the time, “Verba Joann. Russelli Jureconsulti pro Senatu Populoque Edinburgensi habita,” &c.¹ He died 7th of October 1612.

Of Colville's family not much is known. On the 16th of December 1578, he obtained, in favour of his son Robert, a gift of the Chaplainry of Cambuscurry in the Collegiate Church of St Duthac in Tain, Ross-shire, then vacant, “if of convenient age to enter in the study of grammar.” Such grants were usually for the term of seven years; but it was bestowed on another party in September 1580, upon Colville's resignation.² Yet the circumstance of this benefice having been granted “under the Privy Seal to Robert Colvill, sone to Mr Johne Colvill, Chantour of Glasgou,” at the above date, is narrated in a similar gift so late as March 1603.³ Another son, Thomas, is evidently to be recognised in the mode in which his name occurs in letters dated 16th August 1599 and 7th March 1601. Mr Tytler speaks of Henry Lok, one of Cecyl's agents, as Colville's brother-in-law, apparently on no other grounds than the use of the term brother in their correspondence;⁴ but the manner in which Lok speaks of him at a later period, renders it altogether improbable that any relationship had ever existed. The letters of Henry Stewart of Whitelaw, and his zeal in obtaining information to be transmitted to England, not less clearly denote a son-in-law of Colville.⁵ On the 7th of November 1595, he alludes to the marriage of his daughter. His son-in-law, Jerome Lindsay, was the eldest son of David Lindsay, Minister of South Leith, and latterly Bishop of Ross, without resigning his parochial charge.⁶ Soon after the birth of their

¹ It is reprinted in the curious volume entitled “Papers relative to the Marriage of King James the Sixth of Scotland, with the Princess Anna of Denmark; A.D. 1599,” &c., contributed to the Bannatyne Club by James T. Gibson Craig, Esq. Edinb. 1828, 4to.

² See Appendix, *infra*, No. IV. Regist. Secr. Sigilli, vol. xlv. fol. 97. *Ib.* vol. xlvi. fol. 115. *Origines Parochiales Scotiae*, vol. ii. p. 425.

³ Register of Presentations to Benefices.

⁴ Tytler's History, vol. ix. pp. 72, 88, 128.

⁵ The letters of Campbell of Lawers might indeed imply a similar relationship: but he married a daughter of Colville of Easter Wemyss, afterwards Lord Colville of Culross. See *infra*, notes to pp. 137, 149.

⁶ In the Kirk-Session Register of South Leith, among other edifying information, we find, under the date 10th of August 1595:—“The quhilk day Maisteris Jerome, Robert,

child David, in 1603, his wife Margaret Colville died.¹ He again was married to Agnes Lindsay, and obtained the honour of knighthood, probably through the influence of his brother-in-law, Archbishop Spottiswood. In 1634 was confirmed an addition to the Testament of "David Bithop of Rofs, indweller in Leith, who died in Leith 14th August 1613 years, omittit, &c., now given up be the said Mr Jerome Lindfay, foue lawfull to the defunct, then ftyllit Mr Jerome, and now ftyllit Sir Jerome Lindfay, one of the Commiffaries," &c. In a well-known Heraldic Manuscript, the arms are emblazoned of "the right worshopfull Sir Jerome Lyndfay of Annatland, knight, created Lyon King at Armes, at Halyrud-hous, upoun Sondag the 27th of June 1621."² He was admitted Advocate on the 28th of July 1627; and having been appointed one of the Commissaries of Edinburgh, he resigned his crown as Lyon King in favour of Sir James Balfour of Denmylne, who was accordingly inaugurated on Sunday the 15th of June 1630.³ He died on the 4th of October 1642.

D. L.

and David Lyndesayis maid thair repentance for fornicatione committit be thame with sik persones as is before mentioned," in previous minntes. It is to be hoped that on that occasion the worthy old minister was himself saved from performing the painful duty of having to rebuke his three sows in the face of the congregation.

¹ 1603, January 2, Mr Jeremie Lyudesay and Margaret Colvill, thair infant baptized David. Witnesses, David Lyndesay of Eggill, knyght, George Ramsay of Dalhousie, Mr David Lyndesay.—(Register of Baptisms, &c. South Leith.)

1603, May 10.—The quhilk day Mr Jeremie Lyndesay required lycence to build vpone the south syd of the kirkwall the forme of a tombe forment the buriall place of Margaret Colvill his spouse / To the quhilk the whole Session agreed as a thing both comely and honest.—(Ib.)

² Additions to Sir David Lyndsay's Register of Armes, 1542, MS. Advocates' Library.

³ Register of Confirmed Testaments, Commiss. Edinburgh. His son-in-law, Lieut.-Col. Barnard Lindsay, on the 17th of February 1646, presented a petition to the Kirk-Session of South Leith. "to licentiat him to put a rayle about the burial place of umquhill Sir Jerome Lindsay." This permission was granted on the 24th of that month.—(Kirk-Session Register.) Rachel Lyndsay, daughter of Sir Jerome Lyndsay, and wife of Lieut.-Col. Barnard Lindsay, died in May 1645. An Epitaph on her, beginning

The daughter of a King, of princely parts,

In beauty eminent, &c.,

occurs among the Poems of Drummond of Hawthornden.

APPENDIX

TO THE MEMOIR OF COLVILLE.

No. I.—CHANTORIE GLASGOW. COLVILE.

Chantorie
Glasgow.
Colnile.

URE Souerane Lord being informit &c. of his weilbelcouth Maister Johnne Coluile and of his ernist affectioun [to travell in the charge of Ministerie within the Kirk of God] &c. Thairfoir with auisse &c. Ordanis ane letter of presentatioun &c. Presentand the said Maister Johnne to the Chantorie of Glasgow, vacand be deceiss of vmquhile Maister George Bellenden last chantour and possessour thairof And now

1569.
April 20.

pertaining to our souerane Lordis presentatioun &c. And that the said letter be extendit &c. Direct to the Superintendent of Glasgow or Lowthiane Requiring thame or any of thame &c. And he being found abill to vse the charge of ane Minister &c. To ressaue and admit him &c. Ordaning alsua the Lordis of Counsale and Sessionn &c. Prouiding &c. Subscriuit be my Lord Regent at Edinburgh the xx daye of Apryle J^m v^c threiscoir nine yeris.

(Register of Presentatioun to Benefices, fol. 19^b.)

No. II.—M^r JOHN COLVILE.

Dona° xxv li
M^r. Joh. Coluile

URE Souerane Lord with auisse &c. Ordanis ane letter to be maid in dew and competent forme In fauouris of Maister Johnne Colnile chantour of Glasgow, disponand to him for his lyftyme the sowme of xxv li (£25) to be zeirlie vplifit furth of the landis of Sanct Nicholas with the pertinentis liand within the Shirefdome of Fyff beside Sanctandrois, and that as for few-maill addetit sumtyme

1572.
Sept. 29.

to the Freris Predicaturis thairof / Contenit in the few chartour maid be the saidis Freris

of the saidis landes to the fewar thairof / To be zeirle vplifit be the said M^r Johnne at twa termes in the zeir Witsounday and Martymes in Wynter be equale portiones / Prouding the said Mr Johnne during his lyftyme sustene zeirle ane student in ane of the Colledgeis of Sauctandrois with the foirsaid few maill of the landis of Sanet Nicholas heir-eftter as efferis / The quhilk few maill heirtofore appertening to the Freris Predieatouris as ane part of thair patrimony now be ressoun of ane act of Parliament and lait ordinance of the Kirk ar becum in our Souerane Lordes handes and at his Graeces dispositioun . Subscriuit at Edinburgh the penult day of September 1572. //

(Ib. fol. 22^b†.)

No. III.—M^r JOHNNE COLVILE MAID MAISTER OF REQUEISTIS.

1578.
Nov. 29. OURE Souerane Lord, Ordanis ane letter to be maid vnder the Prevy Seill, makand M^r Johnne Coluile maister of requeistis in his Hienes Preuy Counsall and gevand him the office thairof for all the dayis of his lyff. ffor vsing quhairof gevand him ij^c li in fe, to be payit at twa terms in the zeir &c. furth of the superplus And specialie out of the thridis of the Abbay of Balmerinoch quhilk his Hienes assignis in payment thairof Siedyke as vnkquhile Maister Johnne Hay had for vsing and exereeing thairof of befor begynnand at Martinmes nixt to cum And that the said letter be extendit &c. with command to the Collectour to mak payment . Daitit at the Castell of Striueling the penult day of Nouember 1578.

(Register of Presentatioun to Benefices.)

No. IV.—CHAIPLANRIE OF CAMBUSCURRY TO ROBERT COLVILE.

1578.
Dec. 16. OURE Souerane Lord. Ordanis ane letter &c. To Robert Coluile sone to Maister Johnne Coluile chantour of Glasgw Of the gift of the chaplanrie of Cambuscurry liand in the diocy of Ross vacand be deceis of vnkquhile Mr Alex^r Dingwell To the said Robertis support at the scolis for the spaec of sevin zeiris with power to him &c. And that the said letter be extendit with command to the Lordis, To direct letters &c. And with command to the M^r of the Grammar Seole of Striueling to ressaue him &c. Daitit at the Castell of Striueling the xvj day of December 1578.

(Ib.)

No. V.—EXTRACTS FROM THE ACCOUNTS OF WILLIAM LORD RUTHVEN, TREASURER, 1578-1579.

1579.
Aprile. Item, be the Kingis Mat^{is} precept to M^r Johnne Coluile M^r of Requeistis As the said precept wth his acquittance schewin vpoun compt beiris ij^c li

Item, Remittit and dischargeit be the Kingis Ma^{teis} precept to Mr Johnne Coluile Mr of Requeistis As for the compositioun of the gift of the escheit of the teyndschaves of Cambuslayng disponit to the said Maister Johnne As the said precept schewin vpon compt beiris

1579.
Juliij.

lxxvj fi xiiij^d

Item, Idem onerat se de lxxvj fi xiiij^d Compositionis escaete decinarum gartalium et aliarum decimarum Rectoris de Cambuslayng pertinen. Claudio olim Commendatorio de Paislay Concess. Mag^{ro} Joanni Coluile suis heredibus et assignatis. /

No. VI.—COLVILL, CHANTOUR OF GLASGW.

OURE Souerane Lord Ordanis ane letter to be maid under the Preuie Seill in dew forme To his loutit Mr Johne Coluill chantour of Glasgw his airis and assignayis ane or ma off the gift of the escheit of the teindschawis and vthiris teindis fruttis rentis profitis emolumentis and dewteis quhatsumeir of the personage of Cambuslang quhilk pertenit of befoir to Claude sumtyme Commendatar of Paslay and now pertening to our Souerane Lord and fallin and becam in his Hienes handis be ressonne of escheit throw being of the said Claude ordourlie denunceit his Ma^{teis} rebell and put to the horne for non compering befoir his Hienes and Lordis of Secreit Counsall at ane certane day bigane To haue ansuerit to sic thingis as suld haue bene inquirit of him at his cuming Lyik as at mair lenth is contenit in the lettres of horning execution and indorsationis therof past ther vponn With power &c. Subscriuit At his Castell of Striuling the first day of Julij the yeir of God J^m v^c lx nynetene zeiris.

1579.
July 1.

Compo^o. lxxvj fi xiiij^d. iijj^d

(Register of Signatouris in the Office of Comptrollar, vol. i.)

No. VII.—COLVILE, ETC.

OURE Souerane Lord Ordanis ane charter to be maid vnder the Great Seill in dew forme To his loutit Mr Johne Coluile Mr of his Hienes requeistis his airis and assignayis off the heretable gift of all and hail the fyve pound land of auld extent of Narston with thair pertinentis lyand within the barony of Kilbryd and Shirefome of (blank) Quhilkis pertenit heretabillie of befoir to Robert Hammiltoun of Dalserf, haldin be him immediate lie of our Souerane Lord And now pertenis to our Souerane Lord and fallin and becam in his Hienes handes be ressonn of escheit throw the proces and dome of forfaltour ordourlie led aganis the said Robert ffor certain crymes of tresson and lese maiestie comittit be him of the quhilkis he was conuict in Parliament, as the said proces of forfaltour at mair lenth beiris To be haldin &c.—Subscriuit be our Souerane Lord at Striuling Castell the tent day of Aprile 1580.

1580.
April 10.

Gratis.

(Ib.)

Carta Magistro Joanni Colvile, Supplicationum Magistro, Terrarum de Narstoun, Lanark, 10 Aprilis 1580.

(Registrum Magni Sigilli, Lib. 35, No. 180.)

1580. Another letter under the Privy Seal in favour of M^r John Coluill M^r of Requeistis—
July 28. of the gift of the escheit of the landis of Narson, in the same barony, made be the said Mr Johne to Robert Hammiltoun sumtym of Dalsers for the space of nyntene yearis. 28 July 1580.

No. VIII.—CAMBUSCARRIE TO . . . ROSS.

1580. Prebend. of Cambuscurrie in the Sher. of Inuernes to . . Ross son to . . Ross of Bal-
Sept. 18. nagowne, vacand be dimission of Robert Coluile son to Mr John Coluile chantour of Glasgw.

(Register of Presentations to Benefices, vol. ii.)

No. IX.—THE THRID OF THE FRUITIS AND DEWITEIS OF THE PAR-
SONAGE AND VICARAGE OF KILBRYDE TO MR JOHNNE COLVILE.

1580. OURE Souerane Lord Ordanis ane letter to be maid vnder the Priuie Sele in dew
Dec. 29. forme To his lout Maister Johnne Coluile M^r of his Hienes Requeistis Gevand grantand and disponand to him for all the dayis of his lifytyme All and hail the thrid of the fruittis rentis privatis emolumentis teindis teindschevis and vtheris dewiteis qubatsumeuer alswele not nemmit as nemmit of the parsonage and vicarage of Kilbryde callit the Chantorie of Glasgow liand within the diocy thairof And sicylke the superplus of said benefice gif ony be omittit and left out ungevin up in the rentale at the tyme of the first Assumption of the thriddis of benefices within this realme expres contrair the Actis and ordinances maid thairanent with power &c. And that the said letter be extendit &c. with command to the Lordis of Session to direct letters &c. discharging the Collectour General and his Deputis of all introumetting with the thrid and superplus, &c. Pronyding alwayis that the said M^r Johnne furneis and sustene ane Minister &c. Subscriuit At Halirudhous the xxix day of December 1580.

(Ib.)

No. X.—ACT IN FAVOUR OF M^r JOHNE COLVILE.

Apud Halyruidhous xvij Nouembris Anno &c. lxxxij^o.

1582. ANENT the Supplication presentit to the Kingis Maiestie and Lordis of Secreit Coun-
Nov. 17. sale be Maister Johnne Coluile chantour of Glasgow, makand mentioun That quhair it is

not unknowin to his Hienes and the saidis Lordis how sen his Maiesteis Coronatioun the said Maister Johne lies euer constantlie to his meane abilitie remanit ane faythfull ser-
 vand to his Hienes crowne and for the same has sufferit sindrie greit oppressionis be the
 Innemeis thairof; vpon quhilk respect it pleisit his Maiestie at the acceptatioun of the
 gouernament in his awin persoun to admit the said Maister Johne in his household and
 to promote him to the office of Requeistis quheirin he continewit weill neir the space of
 thrie zeir till his Hienes for uther gude caussis he doubtis not thoecht expedient to place
 Maister Mark Ker in that seruice quhairof the said Maister Johne was then and yit is
 aluais thankfullie contentit understanding his Hienes pleasour sa to be And for signifi-
 catioun of his dewtfull zeale and affectioun to the quietnes of his Maisteris estate and
 fearing leist the grudge remaning betuix thame suld engenner amangis thame And for
 thair caus betuix sindry nobill men thair fauouraris sum commotioun quhairby his
 Maiestie might haue bein troublit Rather nor for the said Maister Johne caus sic incon-
 uenientis sould haue enseuit he chesit rather with his awin consent and gude lykynge
 with sight of the Clerk of Register and Maister Johne Scharp one of the Aduocattis of
 Sessioun To renunce quitelame and discharge the said office And to entir in loving
 frendship with the said Maister Mark committing him self to his Hieness and the saidis
 Lordis gude discretioun and gratiuousnes w'out ony forder respect Humelic thairfor
 desyring of the Kingis Maiestie and the saidis Lordis that he my^t still remane his Hienes
 domestik seruitour and that command my^t be gevin to the Maisteris of his Hienes hous-
 hold to that effect As alsua that it my^t pleis his Maiestie and the saidis Lordis that he
 my^t haue acces and place in the Secret Counsall and be employit in the effaris apper-
 tening thairto And that he my^t haue his Hienes promeis *in verbo Principis* of the first
 vacand place in Sessioun till sum uther gud office or occasioun be presentit lyke as at
 mair lenth is contenit in the said Supplicatioun Quhilkis being red heard and considerit
 be the Kingis Maiestie and the saidis Lordis and thay considering the gude trew and
 thankfull service done to his Hienes be the said M^r Johne in tymes past his gude will
 and mynd to continuw thairin in tym cuming and how acceptabill his said services may
 be to his Hienes at all occasionis His Maiestie thairfor with auise of the saidis Lordis
 hes acceptit and admittit and be thir presentis acceptis and admittis the said M^r Johne
 to be ane of the nowmer of his Hienes domestik seruitouris And commandis his Maieities
 M^r Houshald present and that salhappin to be for the tyme To caus ansuer him . . .
 in his hous as efferis As alsua willis and ordanis hin to haue fre access and
 place counsall to be employit in the common effairis
 appertening therunto at all occasionis neidfull And attour for the further significatioun
 of his Hienes gude will and mynd towartis him His Maiestie likewyis promittis *in verbo*
Principis To present and caus hin to be admittit to the first place in his Hienes Ses-
 sioun quhilk salhappin to vaik be ony maner of way To be occupit be him vnto the
 tyme sum vther profitabill office or occasioun be presentit quhairthrow his Maiestie may
 gratifie him thairwith as he hes weill deservit.

(Reg. Secreti Sigilli.)

throw foirfaultour ordourlie led upone the said M^r Johne Colvill for certane crymes of tressone and lese Maiestie committit be him of the quhilkis he wes convict in Parliament as in the proces and dome of foirfaultour ordourlie led and giffin aganis him at mair lenthe is contenit And the said Chantorie of Glasgow parsonage and vicarage of Kilbryd with the hail fruttis thairof pertenis to our Souerane Lordis presentatioun be full rycht of patronage and that the said presentatioun be extendit in the best forme with all claimes neidfull and be direct to the Archbischop of Glasgow. Subscruiit be our Souerane Lord at Halyrudhouse the tent day of Februar the zeir of God 1584 zeiris.
(Register of Presentatioun to Benefices, vol. ii.)

No. XIV.—COLVILL, ETC.

OURE Souerane Lord Ordanis ane chartour of confirmatioun to be maid under his grite seill in the mair forme Confirmand etc The charter fewferme and locatioun y^rin contenit maid gevin and grantit be Alex^r Commendatar of Culros and annex thairof To his lovettis James Colveill sone and apparand air to James Colvill of Eister Wemys M^r Edwarde Bruce Commiss^r of Edinburgh and person of Torry Johnne Colvill sone lauchfull to the said Commendatar and George Bruce in Culros thair airis and assignais qhatsumevir all and hail the coill baith grite and small that is or salhappin to be win within the boundis of the Common mure of Culros Territorie of the same and aikeris lyand about the toun of Culros / And same kill coill as restis in the bandis of the said Commendatar vndisponit to uthers Sua that it salbe lesum to the said James M^r Edwarde Johne and George thair airis and assignais To win coill east coill poittis and sufficient gaittes and passages for careing of the said coill fra the said coilpittis that salhappin to gang and to the salt pannis of Culros to the Tay and all uthers places neidfull To be haldin of the saidis Commendatar and convict etc. Sauldland etc. At Strivilling the auchtein day of August 1585 Compo^o vj fi
(Reg^r of Signatures—Contⁿ. of Eccl^l. Grants, few fermes &c. f. 69^b.)

1585.
Aug. 18.

No. XV.—CHANTORIE OF GLASGOW TO M^r ROBERT DARROCH.

OURE Souerane Lord being informit of the qualificatioun etc. of his louit M^r Robert Darroch Minister and of his earnest affectionn etc. Ordanis ane letter etc. Nominatand and presentand the said M^r Robert to the Chantorie of Glasgow Personage and vicarage of the Paroche Kirk of Kilbryde annex thairto, with the hail mannses zairdis and pertentuis lyand within the Parochin of Kilbryde Sherrifdlome of Lanerk and Diocie of Glasgow now vacand be dimissioun of M^r Johnne Coluile last possessour thairof And that the said letter be direct to the Bischop or Commissioner of Glasgow requireing etc. Ordaning alswa the Lordis of Counsale and Sessioun To grant and direct

1586.
July 22.

letters etc. Subscryuit etc. At Falkland the xxij day of Julij the zeir of God I^m v^c lxxxvj zeiris. Cautioner James Coluile of Eister Wemis.

(Reg^r. Presentation to Benefices, vol. ii.)

No. XVI.—COLVILL, ETC.

1586.
Nov. 18.

OURE Souerane Lord and Lordis of his Hienes Secreit Counsale Remembring the trew and afauld service done to his Ma^{tie} be his lout M^r Johne Coluill Chantour of Glasgw, and his gude affectioun to continew thairin in tymes cuming vnderstanding heirwith that the soumes of money after specifit ar restand awand to the said M^r Johne as proper debt be his Hienes q^of na pament nor satisfioun has bein maid at any tyme heirtofoir That is to say thre thousand markis appointit to him be special preceptis at quhat tyme the said M^r John wes direct and employit in his Maiesties maist wechty effairis in the realme of England at twa seneral jorneyes Togidder with thre hundredth markis zeirlye restand to him be the space of thre zeiris for his ordinar service As Maister of Requestis w^t ane chanze of gold worth ane thousand pundis pertening to the said M^r Johne and deliuerit be him at his Ma^{ties} command To be gevin in propyne to Mons^r Manuell Freche embassadour for the tyme q^of his Ma^{tie} being of mynd that the said M^r Johne salbe thankfullie pait and y^by haue the better occasioun to eontinew his gude affectioun in his Hienes seruice in all tymes necessar Ordanis ane letter to be maid vnder his Previe Seill direct to his Thesaurare and his deputtis for the tyme makand mentioun That his Maiestie with aduise of the saidis Lordis of his Hienes Previe Counsale for paiment of the particulare debtis aboue specifit eftir tryell tane and ane eognitioun thairament vpoun the said M^r Johannes supplicatioun presentit be him red, sein, and allouit in Counsale ane speciale ordinance grantit on the bak thairof in his favouris and to the effect vnderwrittin having na better occasioun presentlie to satisfie the saidis debtis hes assignit and disponit and presentlie gevis grantis assignis and disponis To the said M^r Joⁿ Coluill his airis and assignais quhatsumevir Ane zeirlye annuelrent of fyve hundredth and forty merkis To be zeirlye pait to him and his foirsaidis at twa termes in the zeir Witsouday and Mertymes in winter be equal portioumis And that of the first and reddiest of his Hienes casualities intronettit with or to be intronettit with be his Hienes Thesaurar or his deputtis present or being for the tyme Begynand the first termes pament at the feist of Witsouday last bypast in the zeir of God I^m v^c fourscoir sex zeiris And sua furti zeirlye and termelie in tyme enning Ay and quhill the said M^r Johne his airis and assignais be fullie satisfieit and pait be his Hienes his Thesaurare or Comptrollar Or vtheris in his name of the soumes of money perticularelie abouewrittin Extending to the soum of fyve thousand four hundredth markis money foirsaid quhillk assignatioun and zeirlye annuelrent his Maiestie with aduise of the Lordis of Secreit Counsale be thir presentis grantis and declaris to be grantit vpoun caussis verray ouerous and necessar And for releif of his Ma^{ties} awin proper debt and na vtherwayis And thairfoir that the same sall not be subject to his Hienes renouationis generalie or

specialie or alterable at ony tyme hereftir sa lang as the said principall soum restis vnpait With command in the same to the Lordis Auditouris of his Maiesties chekkar etc. communi forma. At Halierudehous the xvij day of Novemir I^m v^e fourseoir sex zeiris.
(Register of Signatouris &c. vol. x.)

No. XVII.—CHARTER OF CONFIRMATION TO MR JOHN COLVILL
PRECENTOR OF GLASGOW, AND JANET RUSSELL HIS SPOUSE OF
AN ANNUAL RENT OF THE LANDS OF BUCKHAVEN, FIFE.

OURE Souerane Lord Ordanis ane charter of Confirmatioun to be maid vnder his Hienes grite seill in the mair forme Confirmand etc. The charter of alienatioun and venditioun it contenit, maid and grantit be James Coluill of Eister Weimis and James Coluill his sone and app^d. air with aduise and consent of the said James his father as lauchfull administratour tutour gydare and governour to him of the law, and also with aduise and consent of Alexander Commendatar of Culros M^r Eduard Bruce Adnocat and George Bruce in Culros his curatouris for thair intereis To his Maiesties louit M^r Johne Coluill Chantour of Glasgw and Janet Russale his spous and to the langest levare of thame tua in conjunct fee and to the airis lauchfullie gottin or to be gottin betuix thame quihilkis failzeing to the said M^r Johnnes airis and assignais quhatsumever Of all and hail ane annual rent of aucht chaldre four bollis beir gude and sufficient merchant wair zeirlic to be uplifit betuix Yule and Candilmas furth of all and sindrie the toun and landis of Bukhavin with the pertinentis, And specialie out of that pairt thair of quhilk is presentlie occupiit be the personis namit in the said charter of alienation lyand within the barronie of Eister Weymes and S^{ed}om of Fyiff To be haldin of the said Laird of Eister Weymes his said sone and thair airis in fre blanche for pament of ane penney vpoun the ground of the saidis landis gif it be ask it allanerlic Saulfand &c. Attour &c. At Halirudhous the twenty two day of November I^m v^e lxxxvj zeiris
Compoⁿ—xl li (lb. vol. x)

1586.
Nov. 22.

Carta Conf. Magistro Joanni Colvill Precentori de Glasgow et Jonetæ Russell suæ
spouse de annuo redditu de terris de Buckhaven, Fife. 22 Nov^{ris} 1586.
(Reg. Magni Sigilli, Lib. 36. no. 320.)

1586-7.
March 12.

No. XVIII.—PRECEPT TO ANSUEER MAISTER JOHNE COLVILL OF
V^c AND XL MARKIS.

Apud Dalkeith duodecimo die mensis Marcij
Anno &c lxxxvj^e.

THE Kingis Majestie with auise of the Lordis of Secreit Connsall Ordanis and
commandis Johne Arnott collectour appointit for ingadding of the lait Taxa-

1586-7.
March 12.

tioun of fyftein thousand pundis To ansuer and mak payment indelaytlic eftir the sicht hicrof to Maister Johne Coluill chantour of Glasgw off the soume off fyve hundreth and fourty markis money of this realme of the first and reddiest of the said Taxatioun and that for ane part of the zeirlic annuelrent addettit be his Maiestie to him ay and quhill he be payit of the soume of fyve thowsand and foure hundreth markis conforme to his letters of allowance and promeis of payment vnder the Preuey Seill grantit to the said Mr Johne thairupoun Quhill soume his Ma^{tie} with aise of the saidis Lordis ordanis and commandis the said Johne Arnott To pay to the said Mr Johne in maner foirsaid Nochtwithstanding ony uthir preceptis or commandimentis direct to him in fauour of ony uthir persone and the same salbe thankfullie allowit to him in his comptis kepan the extract of thir presentis Togidder with the said Mr Johnnes acquittance vponn the ressaif of the said soume for his warrand.

(Reg. Secreti Sigilli.)

The following extract may be subjoined as confirming the statement at page xi. note 3, that Elizabeth Arnot was the wife of Robert Colville of Hilton and Uchiltree, who was slain at Floddon, and not of his father, Robert Colville of Hilton, who died in 1504 :—

Apud Perth, xx Octobris 1513.

Anent the complaint maid be Elizabeth Arnot, Lady Vehiltre, the spous of vmquhile Robert Coluile of Vehiltre, and James Coluile, his soun and air, apoun James Coluile and David Coluile, for the wrangins and masterfull taking and with baldin of the hous and fortalice of Vehiltre, in presens of the saidis Lordis, Comperit the said James, and confessit the taking of the said hous, and nocht in contemptioun, bot for the weile of the said Elizabeth and James, And that vtheris thair ill-willaris suld nocht haue entres thairin, And oblissit him, befor the Lordis, to deliuer and gif our the said hous to the said Elizabeth and James, quhat tyme it wald pleiss thame to cum or send and ressaue the same : Tharfor the Lordis ordanis him to deliuer the said hous, efter the tenour of his oblisging, and that lettres be direct tharupoun, as efferis.

(Acta Domini. Concilii, vol. xxvi. fol. 8.)

ORIGINAL LETTERS

OF

MR JOHN COLVILLE.

M.D.LXXXII.—M.DC.III.

ORIGINAL LETTERS

OF

MR JOHN COLVILLE.

MR JOHN COLVILLE TO THOMAS RANDOLPH.

SIR,

Albeit I have nocht grit mater to wryte, yit that our auld freind-
ship fould nocht perish, ye fall refaiue thir fewe lynis. 1581-2.
Mar. 14.

I think ye hard of qhow the Erle of Arrane¹ wes defyred of the King
to pas to his awin hous, and to demit the gaird² in his hand and the
Counfals; the quhilk he did, and sua obeyed the King and Counfall.

The King did this for the Duke's³ pleffure, with quhom it apeirs the
King is bewiched.

The haitted betueine the Duke and the Erle is reconfeiled, the tent
of Maireh instant: *sed non ex animo*.

The King and the Duke beis goffopps to the Erle of Arrane's sone,
quha beis baifteit the fourteine day of this moneth.

Efter this baptyme, the King passes to Strivelling and beis goffope to
the Erle of Mar's sone; for the Erle of Marre is reconfeiled with the

¹ Captain James Stewart, second son of Andrew Lord Ochiltree, one of the King's
favourites, was created Earl of Arran. In 1584 he was advanced to be Lord High Chan-
cellor; but was superseded in July 1586. His usurped title of Arran and the estates
were afterwards restored to the Hamilton family.

² His place as Captain of the King's guards.

³ Esme Stewart, Lord of Aubigny, who was Duke of Lennox in 1579. After his
banishment in 1582, he went to France, where he died the 26th of May 1583.

Duke, and the Erle of Marre hes beine in courte this month bypaff or mair.

The Erle of Argyle is paffed of court, with his hail flittinge. He hes the bludie fluxis, as the brute gois, quhilk is thocht to be the caus of his paffing haime; yit the treuth is, he is nocht content as materis gois in Court, and it is thocht he fal nocht cum haiftellie againe.¹

At the Kingis being at Strivelling I think we fall heir fume newis.

Ye fall certainly knaw that the Duke meinis nothing bot wraik of religion, and, geive it may be poffable, to haive haime our Queine² agane; for papiftis reforts haime in grit abundance.

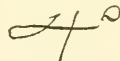
Mr James Lowfone hes gaitten ane letter writtin be ane papift out of France to Mr Henrie Keir, feruand to the Duke, in fauors of ane lerned papift quhilk is laity cummed hame, declairing that the Catholicks in France hes ane greit wark ado in Scotland. The Lord preferne his poore Kirk.

The Duke's confiderates are thefe; the Erle Huntly, the Lord Home, the Lord Setoune, the Lord Ogilbe, Maifter Glames, the Erle Eglingtoun. Thir ar the moft part of the greit men that menifs his way. The hail rest foundis rather the Erlis gaitte.

The Duke continews fauorer of all thaim that bure airmes aganest the King. The Miniftre mislykis altogether the Duke's fafchione of deiling, and thay mislyke the new freindfchip betuix him and the Erle of Arane; bot I think the freindfchipe fall nocht laing continew.

Ye fall refaiue our laft Actis of Parliament. Geiue I had better ye fould haime it. To conclud, luik nocht for lang quyetnes in this cuntre. Thair is ane yung man, ane frend of myne, quha is ane gud scoller, and wald be in Ingland to teich bairnes. I pray you fe quhat he may be oneflie provyded for againe May nyxt. Writtin the fourteine of March instant.

Youris in the old maner,



¹ He died, in September 1584, after a long illness.

² Mary Queen of Scots.

COLVILLE TO RANDOLPH.

SIR,

I wrait to you a while fence anent the estait of our cuntre, and becaus I thinke ye haif herd many lees, I have thoct good to certesie you trewlie of oure estait. In the begyning of Aprill, the Miniftrie between Stirling and Berwyk held ane Synodall affemble, quhene the Bishop of Glasgow¹ wes citit. He comperit not, bot purchesit the King's letters to put vs all to the horn in case we procedit with excommunicatione. Vpon this we directit Mr James Lowson and Johne Durie to the King with ane supplication, the effect of [it] wes, that yf his Ma^{tie} wold command vs on that manere aganist God's law we culd not obey the faune, bot assurit him we wold obey God. This being declarit vnto him, he was not content, and the Miniftry callit before the Counfall war inhibit to proceed ouy way aganis the Byshop. At this tyme Lenox was in a greit raig. In the Generall Affemble holdin the xxiiij of Aprill, it wes votit, that the Bishop suld be simple deposit and neuer to enter in the miniftrie, and syclik to be excommunicat; the Bishop having thair ane herauld of armes to put the hail Assemblé to the horn: [never] the les the Bishop be sum wes persuadit to cum agane, and confessit his fawt, and promesit to gif over the Bishopryk. In this Affemble Mr James Lowfone, John Durie, and Mr David Lindfay,² wes sent to gif previe admonitions to the Duik, the Erll of Arran, and the Erle of Gourie, under the pane of excommunication, to leif of the deling to persuade the King to wryt things exprest againe God's law. Mr David Lindfey went to admonish the Duik, quho callit him divers times pultron. And Arane callit Jhone Durie knave, and gais him divers lees. This wes the humbill refaving of the Kirk's admonition. As to the Bishop (as we are informit) he will not stand to the thing he promisit to the Kirk; and it's lyklike, for the Duke fettis him at the heid of his table: allwais yf he

1582.
May 18.

¹ In 1581 Mr Robert Montgomery, minister of Stirling, obtained the office of titular Archbishop of Glasgow, upon engaging to surrender the income of the See to Esme Duke of Lennox. This transaction subjected Montgomery to the censures of the Church and to a protracted litigation. In 1585 he resigned the office, and, after an interval of two years, he became minister of Symington, in Kyle.

² Lawson and Dury were ministers of Edinburgh, and Lindsay minister of Leith.

gymp, he wilbe excommunicat *ipso facto*, and vpon this the Miniftery wilbe put to the horn, and fa the vprore will not fail to fall out.

As, bye reputation, Arran and the Duke agreis as yit, bot God knows how long; thair is na Noble man that cumis nere the Court except Lenox, Arane, and Goury. Argyl is feik, at leif cumis not to the Court.

There is ane Act of Counfall maid at Stirling, in this laft April, that na letter fuld pas be the King except be the Counfall. And yf ony paff without the Counfall, it fuld ethir be presentit first vnto the Duik or eles quha euir purchefit the fame, yf he ware the King's fervant, or bine ony thinge, he fuld be deposit *ipso facto*.

Sen this Act of Counfall, a sone of Alex^r Hwme of Manderfon hes purchefit a previe wryting fro the King without the Duik's advis, wherat the Duik is hevele grievit, and will ethir haife him difchargit the Court for it, or ells he will gif over all reull. The King stands to his wryting. And fa out of this litill thair may sum greter matir work.

The Duik of Gwis maif^r stabler¹ is cumit in with vj fare hors to the King. After the landing of the q^u, Mr James Lowfon and John Durie went to the King, and shew him quhat intente mentes might fall out yf he fuld refais ony thing fra the hands of them that ware sic enimies to the Kirk as the Duik of Gwis wes; quha promefit theme that yf he might not refaive tham whiche God sent he wold not; yit not the les, it is certain, he lees in Dalkeith thes xvij day of this instant to se thai horfe and refais tham.

As to the newis quhilk ye haif herd, of the Castell of Ed^r to be gevin to the Duik, it is all lees. The King maks his progres in Fyfe, and cumis not till Ed^r afore Lammes. Thair is na vther alteratione at the wryting of this letter, bot I think it fall not stand lang eftir this manere; and I think the excommunicating of the Bifhop, yf he breik ony thing, it fall mak the first, for yf the Bifhop breik, not onle he bot Lenox also wil be excommunicat. Our Nobilite lyes at the Wast.

Thire are the Duik's reullers and counfellors, the Abot of Newbottell, Mr David Magill, and John Matland.²

¹ Seigneur Paul, an Italian. Calderwood styles him "a famous murtherer at the massacre of Parise," or St Bartholomew.—(History, vol. iii. p. 619.)

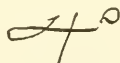
² Mark Kerr, Commendator of Newbattle; M^cGill, Lord Advocate; and John Maitland, Commendator of Coldingham, afterwards Lord Thirlestane.

Mr James Lowfone and Mr David Lindfay hes bene in Tividaill and the Mers in viftatione, bot the Duik feris very mekull that thai haife bene feking the handwryting of gentill men againft his proceeding.

Affure yo^r felf that before this day thair is no byn certane newis in this cuntre, and gif ony cumis byn ye fal be aduertifit, and therfor quhat euir ye heir, fufpend your judgement till ye heir from me.

We haife a generall Faft the firft and fecond Sondays of Juin, out of the quhilk I trust God fall work fum gude thing. We efteme na mair of Aran nor the Duke, for he is bot a proud godles man. Writtin the xvij day of Maij A° 1582.

Yours in the old maner,



COLVILLE TO RANDOLPH.

SEN my laft letter his Ma^{te} and Counfeill hes concludit that the Duik fall remowe within fyfteen days, and that he fall presentlie render Dumbarten in the hands of the Erll of Mar: gif he refusis this, his Ma^{te} will confent that he be perfewitt with all hostile. Thair is few that affiftis him faif only fum papiftes, and he remanis at Edinburgh fa defolat and foroufull that all guid men heir prafis God and reioyfis gretlye thair of. His Ma^{tes} mynd is mekill alienat from him, and I hoip God, or it be lang, hir Ma^{te} fall refaife his Gr. awn declaration how he hes bein abusit in tymes past.

1582.
Sept. 3.

The Duik is merweluffie afrayid of hir Mat^s fchippis, and hes defyred that moyen may be maid with hir Ma^{te} that he may haif paffage throughe the feis in fuirtie: quhilk is refusit to him. Quhidder he embarkis at the weft or eft feis I am yit vncertane, bot, as I knaw farder, yo^r Wor. falbe aduertefit. Alway gif tuay fchippis wer preparit to ly in the mouth of our Firthe befyd the Skareheads,¹ and other tuay betuix Irland and the coft of England in the weft feis, I think he culd not efeaip.

¹ The Skareheads, known as the Staples, a tract of small isles and rocks, near Fairn Island, off the coast of Northumberland.

For releiff of the Erl of Angus, all Nobile men heir hopis her Ma^{te} will fend fun man, weill affectionat to the amitie of the tuay Nations, to intreit for him, and to mak motion of the greiffis quhairwith his Ma^{te} hes bein offendit in the government of the D'Obany and Arren; quhairvnto sic answers will be giffin as fall content hir Majestie, and all honest and godly men of hir Nation. This direction wald kwm in mest propirly the twenty of this instant, wiche is apontit for the Convention of the Estats.

Na farder for the present, bot I pray God preserve hir Ma^{te} and blis hir with laing and happy dayes in His feir. From Stirling, the ferd of September 1582.

NEMO.

His Ma^{te} remanis in Stirling, till the
Duik be away, and all matters par-
feit and fett down.

COLVILLE TO RANDOLPH.

1582. THAT I spair to writt fa oft to yo^r Wor. as I wald, the caus is, for that
Sept. 15. I think the Embassadoris makkis hir Ma^{te} dayly advertesit of the estait
of a matteris heir; to quhom I impart sic thingis continually as I can
lern.

At the writing of this instant we hard that D'Obany wes to fewte, new prorogation of the day, and libertie to remane heir till he wer better provydit to his jurney. Gif this be defered, yo^r Wor. fall knaw.

His Ma^{te} hes refavit these Embassadoris the 14 of this instant, and hes giffin thame guid countenance. I trest in God, befor thai depert, thai fell fo prevaill at his Gr. handis that he fall no^t be ahamit to confes how far he hes bein abusit, and caryit away from his dewite to hir Ma^{te}.

The copy of the supplication giffin in to his Ma^{te} at the beginning of this werk, the remonfrance and declaration of the Nobill mennis mending quha hes interpyfit the caus,¹ togidder with the petitions of D'Obany

¹ This refers to the manifesto of the Noblemen concerned in the "Raid of Ruthven," entitled, "Ane Declaration of the just and necessar Causes moving us of the Nobilitie of Scotland and others, &c., to repair to his Hienes presence," &c.

and answeris maid to thame, and depositions of George Dowglas, I haif delyverit to S^r Robert Bowes, quhairwith or now I treft hir Ma^{te} be acquent.

Sa, praying yo^r Wor. mak hir Heines informit of my diligence and guid affection to hir Ma^{ties} service, I pray God blis hir Ma^{te} with lang and prosperes reyne in His feir.

Pleis yo^r Wor. also present my humill commendations of service to my lord Secretary, quhom with yo^r Wor. I pray God preserve. From Stirling, the xv. of Septembre 1582.

Yo^r Wor. awin to be commandeit with service,

Jo. COLVILLE.

To the richt worfchipfull Mr Thomas
Rendolphe, Mr of hir Ma^{ties} postes.

COLVILLE TO RANDOLPH.

His Ma^{te} hes opennit his mynd to my lordis Ambassadar,¹ and hes agknewlegit that he is relevit from ane gret extremitie be your lait interprys. He desyris hir Ma^{te} conceive na evill opinion of him, and to esteim of him as ane that falbe thankfull and the grait for hir benefitis. The day of D'Obany's² departing is prolongit for four dayis, with condition that gif he remane after the day he fall be perfewit with fyir and fwerd as ane tratour; lyk as ther actis maid thairvpon proportis, wiche I haif giffin to my lordis Ambassadar. 1582.
Sept. 18.

The weill of the caus consistis mest in hir Ma^{te}, and gif it fall pleis hir Heines agree to the petitions laft fend for leveing of men of weir, the matter will incontinent fattill, to the gret weillfair of baith the Nations. Quharfor pleis yowr Wor. sa trawell with hir Heines that thir Nobill men, quha hes begun this caus with gret hazard, for the luif thair bair to

¹ At this time Sir George Carey and Sir Robert Bowes came to the Court of Scotland, as Ambassadors from Queen Elizabeth.

² D'Aubigny, Duke of Lennox.

the religion, hir and his Ma^{te} estatis and persone, be no^t left destitut, and ouerchargit with greter burthins than thai can indure.

Quhat I loife vntremembrit of the estait of matters heir your Wor. will heir from the Embassadar, otherwys I vald writt mair prolixitie.

Lett my meft humill and meft obedient service be presentit to hir Ma^{te} and to my lord Secretare; and as hir Heines thinkis guid to esteme of my faythfull mening, pleis yow lett me be aduertesit thairof; fa I pray God preserue your Wor. From Stirling, the xvij of Septembur 1582.

Yours to be commandit with service,

JO. COLVILLE.

COLVILLE TO RANDOLPH.

1582.
Sept. 28.

How matteris gois heir I think hir Ma^{te} fall be sufficientlie informit be the Ambassador. His Ma^{te} hes writtin ane letter to hir Hienes, quhilk will testife his guid mening. Gif sic guid correspondene be as is fairlie likit for, hir Ma^{te} will haif occasion to think that hir benefates bestawit upon him ar not wnthankfullie refavit. Bot the grownd of all is to assist the Nobill men heir quha hes joynit in this caus, for that without hir Ma^{tes} ayid hardlie may thai heir fowrthe the faming be thame self. Tharfor, as hir Ma^{te} wald wifche the guid succes of the action interprysit (quhilk tendis na les to the tranquillite of hir estait nor to the preferuation of our Soueregne), pleis your Wor. fa trawell with hir Hienes as that hir accustomit liberalite be not abstraetit at this time. I am of the opinion that the Convention which was apontit to be the tent of October salbe prorogat for findry causes, quhairof I fall writt mair spetially in my nixt letter. The relaxation grantit to Angus is lytill to his honour or commodite, except hir Ma^{te} insist farder for him, that he may be refforit to his leving, and in the mid tyme haif acces to expone his estait to his Ma^{te}, quhilk yit is refwfit. This guid werk for Angus I believ hir Hienes will performe lyik as sehe hes begun the same, and in fa doing be him, hir Ma^{te} will haif in all leswm effaris na small number

of honest men to do hir acceptabill service. Wer no' the Embassadar is aequentit with all effaris heir, I fuld writt mair ampilly. Tharfor at the present I eis, presenting my humill commendation of service, and committing your Wor. to Goddis protection. Killing meft humlie the handis of my lord Secretary, to quhom I pray God I may haif power to do acceptabill service. From Sterling, the xxviiij of September 1582.

Be your Wor. affurit frend to be commandit with service,

JO. COLVILLE.

To the richt worchshipfull Mr Thomas
Rendolphe, Maister of hir Ma^{ties}
Postis.

EXTRACTS OF LETTERS FROM ROBERT BOWES TO
SIR FRANCIS WALSYNGHAM.

I HAVE found Mr John Colvill both able and also verie willinge to do many good offices for the furtherance of her Majesties service, and our grett helpes, deserving well to be encouraged and considered for his comforte. It maye therefore please you to lett him understand by such convenient meanes as ye think good, that his pains and good will shewed herein ar made knowne to you. He had purposed to have wrytten to you at this tyme, but feinge him carefullie occupied otherwife and knowinge that by other lettres you should receive sufficient intelligence, therefore I have presumed for to disburthen him of that labour for this tyme. 1582. Sept. 14.

In this I have thought it my duetye to make knowne and recommend to you the especiall devotion and service of Mr John Colvyle, that hath done very grett good in this accion, and laboreth daye and night in her Majesties service, to the grett benefytt of the same, and my singular helpe. Albeit this accion hath bene enterprised by these noblemen deserving grett honor and prayse for their good partes therein, yett the Oct. 4.

elife devise and execution have comed from meaner persons, well affected to her Majesty and the cause, and that in the further progresse hereof must be still used as most meete instruments to profytt this worke begon.

1582.
Nov. 8.

Upon the review and consideration of your former letters to me, and our present disposition at court, albeit I have little hope that this negotiation of Colonel Steward and Mr Jo. Colville shall bring such profit to her Majesty and common causes, as surely it may do in case the same shall be well excepted and followed out as appertaineth; yet that no default shall be found and rightly reputed to me, and that the good end and success hereof may be disposed and governed by God's good will, and to be laid before her Majesty to make choice of the same, I have therefore both drawn forwards the sending of these ambassadors with such errands and offers as shall be found profitable, and also obtained that such good ministers should be employed therein as I knew were well affected, and would be careful to advance the cause to the best course.

Nov. 8.

It may please your Honour. The King, being fully determined to send to her Majesty in ambassage Col. Wm. Steward and Mr Jo. Colville, with such instructions as shall be seen good to him and his council, and whereof upon the resolution of the same I may happily give you hereafter some taste and understanding, therefore he did require me yesterday to write for and procure their passports to be granted and sent hither for them, with such speed as about the xxjst hereof, before which time he assureth himself that the Duke shall be manifestly known to be departed out of this realm, they may enter and take their journey towards her Majesty; it may therefore please you to move her Majesty for this passport. And upon her Highness's pleasure signified for the grant thereof, to cause it to be conveyed to me with expedition, according to the King's desire. His purpose is to give his direction and dispatch to these persons before his repair to Peebles; and thereon to hold forwards in that appointed voyage, which he intendeth to begin about the xxiiijth of this month at the farthest. But as the resolution for

this diet was unlooked for, so the requirement, I think, shall be as sudden.

It may please your Honour. Your last of the xiiijth hereof, together with the passport for Col. Steward and Mr John Colville, I have received, and given the King understanding of the receipt and readyness of the said passport; which he taketh in very thankful part, and seeketh to hasten the departure of the Duke by all possible means; that after the same he may then send to her Majesty the said gentlemen, who I trust shall not be dispatched from hence before it be well known that the Duke is certainly passed from this realm into France, according to the effect of your last aforesaid.

1582.
Nov. 24.

ROBERT BOWES TO SIR FRANCIS WALSYNGHAM.¹

SIR,

Your last of the vijth hereof I have received, together with a most seasonable and good warning in the same; for the which I do most right hartily thank you; for without it I should surely have erred. And chiefly seeing the inward affection of the King towards the Duke is so mightily broken and abated, beyond the expectation as well of the Duke's party as also of the contrary side; and that his love and good will to her Majesty is so well kindled, as easily he and this state, being presently entertained in the good condition wherein they do now stand, may with reasonable charges be carried in her Majesty's course. But perceiving that over straight husbandry shall shake the King and this realm, and that at this time some apt occasion is offered to me to relieve myself and my credit, and to warn my friends, I have therefore let fall such new matter upon these flights and untrue dealings of the Duke, and the favouring of him in the same to her Majesty's high displeasure, as the King, Col. Stewart, Blantyre, Mr John Colville, and others whom I have

Dec. 14.
Private.

¹ In the volume of "the Bowes Correspondence," published by the Surtees Society, 1842, the Letters of Bowes to Walsyngham during the month of December contain frequent mention of Colville's proposed mission to England at this time. See pp. 286, 287, 291, 292, 296, 301.

drawn so deep into the matter, as they can hardly retire with prejudice or peril, may have cause to think that her Majesty will receive these indignities in very evil part, and thereon be moved to alter her former good opinion and mind towards the King and this nation. Letting it appear that her Majesty's offence conceived thereon may peradventure be the ground and cause of the stay and hindrance of such things as otherwise she would have bestowed for the support and welfare of the King, and thankful reward to noblemen and other good members in this realm. Whereon Mr Colville, at his coming to the court, shall receive better experience at her Majesty's own hands, and espy the aims given by others, what hope there shall be of the success of their desires, whereupon they may in time seek and provide for themselves; and then our said husbandry will shew what commodity it bringeth to the surety of religion, to the preservation of her Majesty's quietness, and to the easement of her charges, that the French ambassador may be stayed, according to your former advice, by the King's letter and order obtained, as before I partly promised, and that it may be known in what towardness the King standeth, and how this state and realm is recovered, and may now with wise handling be retained; whereupon the counsel or course taken to the contrary may now and hereafter have the less excuse. I have thought it meet to procure this journey to Mr John Colville; whom you shall find honest, wise, and of right singular affection to his own sovereign, her Majesty, and the common cause, and whom you may trust in all affairs concerning the same. In the knowledge whereof I have thus commended him to you, to be directed by your advice, both in his doings with the ambassador for France, according to your late note and postscript sent to me, and also in all other things.

Lastly, I humbly beseech you, for God's sake, to help to deliver me from this prison and torments that oppress me; chiefly in that my service shall nothing profit my sovereign, content my friends, nor give credit to myself. Thus with mine humble duty, I pray God have your Honour in his blessed keeping.

Edinburgh, the xiiijth December 1582.

KING JAMES THE SIXTH TO QUEEN ELIZABETH.

Richt excellent, richt heich and michtie Princeffe, oure dearest Sufter and coufine, in oure maist heartlie maner We recommend ws vnto yow. 1582.
 Becaus of oure delay in anfwering youre last lettre, We have directit the Dec. 16.
 beirar heiroy, MAISTER IOHNE COLVILLE, oure trustye fervaunt, to signifie vnto yow the occasion thairof, as the trewth is in deid, and thairwithall to declare [unto] you oure maist affectionat and loving mynd to vse and prosequute be youre gude advise and fanoure (quhairof we have alwayes had sufficient and large prouf) all the gude meanys possible to ws, that we may nureis and interteny the happie peace and amytie standing betuix ws, oure realmes and subiectis. Prayand yow [oure] dearest Sufter, favourable to heir him, and in that quhilk he fall speak to you in oure behalf to gif him firme credit. And so, richt excellent, richt heich and michtie Princeffe, oure dearest fuster and coufine, we commit you in the proteccioun of Almichtie God. Gevin at oure palace of Halyrudehoufe, the xxix day of December, and of oure reigun the sextent yeir, 1582.

Your maiste louinge & affectionate brother & coulinge,

JAMES R.

To the richt heich, richt excellent,
 and michtie Princeffe, oure dearest
 fuster and coufine, The Quene of
 England.

ROBERT BOWES TO LORD BURGHELY.

It may please your good L. The commoditie of the repaire of this Dec. 29.
 bearer, Mr John Coluile, addressed to her Ma^{te} from the King for the norishing and increase of the loving affections and happie amitie betuixt

the said foueraigne, and the experience of his longe contynewed and good devocion to her Ma^{tie} (wiche to my proffitt in her Ma^{ties} seruices in my chardge he hath welle approved) do giue me apt occasion to accompanye him with these presentes and trew commendacion; and both to commend him herewith to your L. good favour, and also humblye to pray your L. to yeld him fuche good countenance and intertaynement as the good cause of his Maister committ to his negociacion maye, by your L. helpe, prosper the better in his handes, and that him self maye receave comforthe for his good offices performed, and encouragment to procede for the benefit of her Ma^{ties} seruices: ffor th'aduancement whereof this Gentleman hath declared his redines to take paynes, and his sufficiencie to accomplish, to the great proffit of her Ma^{ties} seruices aforefaide. Thus, with myne humble duetie, I praye God have your L. in his blessed protection. Edenbrugh, the xxixth of December 1582.

Your L. at comandment,

ROBERT BOWES.

BOWES TO WALSYNGHAM.

1582.
Dec. 29. It maye please your Honour. The comodyte of the repaire of this bearer, Mr John Colvile, addrested to her Ma^{tie} by the King his maister, occasioneth me to accompany him with these presents, and to comend him to your especiall favour. For albeit that in this late action and gret worke, the Noblemen enterprising the same have with great honour, and to their like commendation, well and sufficientlie performed their parts, and by God's helpe brought the same to the state knowen to you; yet that cause hath bene highlie aduanced by fondry meaner personages, and namelie by the Prior of Blantyre,¹ now Lord Priuie Seale, Collonell Stewarde, (one especiallie deuoted to her Ma^{tie}, and that hath and dailie doth grett profytt in these matters), and this gentleman Mr Colvile, who (in the deuise and in th'execution) hath gretlie profyted

¹ Walter Stewart, Commendator of Blantyre.

the begynninge, progresse, and successe hetherto fallen in this happie action. And in the furtherance of all th'affaires for her Ma^{tie} in my chardge, I have bene so ayded and assisted with his contynnall paines and discreet adviſe, as (next vnder the goodnes of God) I ought to attribute the chiefe parte of any prosperous effecte wrought therein to his labour and miniftrie, together with the good helpe of the Prior of Blantyre, that right faithfullie, and with great care, hath bene alwaies prest to sett forwards euerie good purpose promising any benefitt in this action, or seruing to intertaine the good affections and amytie betwixte her Ma^{tie} and the King. Further, by the good meanes of these twoe, I have not onelie obtayned suche credyte with the King for her Ma^{tie}, as in few matters my requeste and aduise, made in her Ma^{ties} name, have not bene well receiued and taken place with him, so farre as in his owne power he might conuenientlie doe; and by their good aduises the Kinge is both broughte to th'understanding of th'estimation and profit of her Ma^{ties} fauour and love towards him, and also in consideration of the fame, to giue deaffe care to th'efforts of forayne Princes, and to cast himselfe whollie vpon the supparte of her Ma^{ties} bountie and goodnes towards him. Therefore, that the King maye receiue comoditie by their counsells, that their endeaours maie be worthelie rewarded, and that the happie amytie and love betwixt the said soueraignes maie be preserved and increased, for the prosperyty of the religion, and all other common causes in both the Realms; I do oftsoons recommend this bearer to your fauour and good aduise, to make thereby his journey happie and prosperous. And where he hath some direction to trauaile with La Motte for his staye in his further journey to this courte, wherewith he will acquaint you and vse your counsell in th'execution of the same, therefore I referre him therin to your selfe and good direction. Fynallie, I hartelie beseech you to make knowne to her Ma^{tie}, as well the good offices alrede done by this bearer, the Prior, and Collonell, and also their redynes to be employed, and sufficiency to yelde and performe the like and beste efforts in their power, to the intente they maye be thereon comforted and recompensed, as the worthines of their good deeds rightlie deserue. All others I leaue to the reporte of this bearer. And thus,

with myne humble duety, I pray God have you in his bleffed kepinge. Edenburge, the xxixth of December 1582.

Your Honour's at comandment,

ROBERT BOWES.

BOWES TO WALSYNGHAM.

1582.
Dec. 29.
Private.

THAT I may make amends for mine error committed by the stay of Mr Colville, then in good readines to have come forwards, I have fo hastened his despatch as he will enter his journey this day, and make all the speed that conveniently he can. . . . Thus, referring all others to the report and coming of Mr Colville, in whose favour I have written to you by my letters delivered to him, and to whom I heartily pray you to shew your especiall favour and goodnes, to prosper his errands and comfort himself, in recompense of his great pains with me; and with mine humble duty, I pray God blefs and preserve you.¹

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

1582-3.
Jan. 7.

IT may pleis your Honour, I haif communicat sic thingis with this berar as I thocht fuld be first remembrit wpon, quhilk is concerning the Duikis prefence. I haif also fend your L. sic lettres as I haif from Scotland to your Honour, quhilkis beand red, your Honour will better understand my credeit. Concerning my Instructions, your L. fall be maid privy tharunto ether at meting, or be the dowbill thereof, as ye think guid. Matteris in our estait ar now (bleffed be God) in sic form as all guid men wald wis; for his Ma^{te}, with adwys of all thame that ar and hes bein menteneing of religion, and loweris of the amitie betuix the tuay Nationis, fall offer himself to her Ma^{te} to follow her counsale and advyse by all otheris levand; and gif this happy opportunitie be no'

¹ See also Letters of January 1582-3, at pages 308, 311, 312, 313, 321, and 324 of "the Bowes Correspondence."

omittit, honest men fall haif thair hartis contentment. I wald pray your L. that I mycht haif prefence how sone your Ho. may obtene the fame, for it wilbe thoecht wery acceptabill to my maister his Ma^{te}. Sa for the present, cometing your Honour to Goddis blessed protection, I humlie tak my leif. From the tonn of Windfore, this 7 of Januar 1582.

Your L. awin to be commandit with service,

To the rycht honorable and my wery
guid lord S^r Francoys Welfehyng-
hame, cheif Secretary to hir Ma^{te}.

JO. COLVILLE.

THE QUEENIS MAJESTIE'S ANSWERES TO THE ARTICLES PROPOUNDED
BY MR JOHN COLVILL, SERVANT TO THE KING OF SCOTTES, AND
OF HIS PRIVY COUNCELL, ON THE BEHALFE OF THE KING HIS
MASTER.

1. For the first, Her Ma^{te}, having considered upon what ground the
delays have grown, and seeing the effects and issue do most manifestly
shewe that there was never but honorable meaning in the King her good
brother: therefore her Ma^{te} doth interpret the Kingis proceedings therein
as a most cleer and evident argument, as well of the sincere good will he
doth outwardly profess to beare towards her Ma^{te} as a demonstration
to all his good subjects how careful he is and will be to establish his
reahne, by renouncing of such as he seeth bent to disturb his estat by
alteracions and practices intended by strangers and th'enemyes of true
religion; whereby, besides the contentment he hath thereby yielded unto
her H., shee hopeth he shall have just cause to be glad thereof, in respect
that by the Duke's absence the unnecessary and most dangerous
jalousies amongst his subjects, by the practice of him and his adhe-
rentes, shalbe removed; especially in this tyme having regarde to that
hath fallen out in forraigne partes of late, as it seemeth concurrent with
that which was intended by means of the said Duke, if he had bidden
in Court but a fewe weekes longer.

1582-3.
Jan. 18.

2. For the Second, Her Ma^{tie}, by the Kingis aeknowledgment of such benefittes as he and his realme hath receaved from her, and his thankfull acceptaacion of the fame, is thereby greatly encouraged, by so freshe a commemoraacion therof after so long a filence, to continewe her former care of his welldoing, as heretofore she hath done; and therefore, when shee shalbe infourmed particularly and plainly of the state of his realme to all purposes, and of such poyntes wherin he shall desyre her advice, as also shall particularly understand what manner of support wilbe thought needfull for the better maintenance of him in his estat, her Ma^{tie} will not then faile to think of his causes as shee wold be advised in her owne, and consequently yeld such contentment therein to the King as may stand with her honor, and due consideracion of her owne estat.

3. That touching the Third, Her Ma^{tie} wisheth that the searching out of the authours of the late conspiraeye had not bene so long delayed; and therefore shee cannot but advise the King to proceed to a speedy searck and inquiry of th'authors thereof, as a matter that, being well ordered now in the beginning, wilbe a staye to any further like attemptes, which, by neglecting of this lately passed, may percase be taken in hand more secretly, and executed more daungerously; for it is as true as commonly said, *Sathanus non dormit.*

4. For the Fourth, Her Ma^{tie} doth thank the King for the commiffion given to the L. Boyde to apprehend two of her subiectes that accompnied the Duke, wherin shee prayeth that there may be care had in th'excecucion therof, as that the parties may be apprehended; forasmuch as her Ma^{tie} knoweth that they are able to discover some matter of importance that concerneth both the Realmes, especially of some intended practises for th'alteraacion of religion, and that first of all in the realme of Seotland.

5. And as touching the delivery of Archibald Dowglas, her Ma^{tie} hath some cause to retayne him, in respect of some practises he is to be charged to have embraced in her owne realme; wherof when her H. shall have made due tryall, and shall have found out his complices here

in her owne realme, thee will not faile to satisfie the Kinges request in that behalfe, so farre forthe as may stande with her honnour.

6. Touching the late spoyles committed about the Isle of Wight upon the Kinges subiectes, her Ma^{tie}, upon the first notice receaved thereof, gave immediately an especiall charge unto her Governour of the said Isle, to seeke by all good meanes that he might to apprehend the said pyrates; and did also give order for the setting out of certain shippes for th'apprehension of them; being most carefull that nothing be omitted to be done therein that maye make it appeare unto the King how desyrous thee is both to content him and yeld satisfaction to his subiects greaved. And touching the redresse of such spoyles as were followed here by Adam Fullerton, committed by certain pyrates upon the subiectes of that realme, he himfelfe knoweth that ther was an extraordinary favourable course of satisfaction held therein, extending to the subiectes of no other prince, though the same could not fall out to be such as might be unswearable to the losses sustained, being evident to all the world that the civill warres in the Kingdomes next adjoining hath brodd those disorders on the seas, the smart wherof hath lighted more heavily upon her Ma^{ties} subiectes then of any other Princes her neighbours.

7. Her Ma^{tie} will give present order for the meeting of the three Wardens upon the Borders, in such forme as the King requyreth, being contented that such causes of importance as will hardly be redressed by the private authority of the Wardens, shalbe committed to special chosen commissioners, referring the choyce of the persons, the tyme and place of meeting, to a further consideration.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

It may pleis your Honour, the 28th of Janvar I arryved heir to Courte, quhair I fand my Maister in wery guid disposition, and weill contented wyth my Answeris.

His Ma^{te} is to send Colonell Stewart and me (gif my feiknes stay me

1582-3.
Feb. 8.

nocht) wythe the ſpecialite of that quhiche I proponed concerning hir Ma^{tes} counfaile and affiſtance. Wnto the tyme that we may be prepared, his Ma^{te} is to writt wnto hir Ma^{te} ane weray familiare and loving letter wythe his awin hand.

La Mott¹ departed the fift of this infant. The other² remains, and dois weray evill offices; bot gif God pleis, or it be lang we fall alfo haif him ſchifted away. Now this matter betuix our Soveraynis is neir ſie point as all guid men wald wiſche, tharfore pleis tak guid chair that the practeis of evill willeris interrump no^t the matter; lyk as heir, ſie as huffis the quietnes and unite of both eſtatis, fall no^t be idill; and quhen matteris beis proponit in ſpecialite, let thame be reſavit in ſie fort as that my Maifter haif nocht caus to find falt wyth ws quho hes mowed him to tak this cours. I haif ſaid weray largely in this point to his Hienes, and thinkis that he fall find no les in effect then I haif ſpoken. This is the firſt hour that I haif had helthe to writt ſence I came in Scotland, tharfor I pray your Honour hald me excuſed of my lang ſilence; and pleis your Honour, alfo ſchaw the ſame to my Lord Lechiſter, left his L. ſuld find falt wyth me. Sa wyth my homill commendacion of ſervice to your Honour, my ladyis your Honouris bed-fallow and doeliter, I pray God preferve your Honour in lang lyif and guid helthe, alway in his feir. From Ed^r, the 8th of Februarie 1582.

Your Honouris alway to be commandit wyth ſervice,

JO. COLVILLE.

Quhatfoever bruittes be ſpred of diviſion of our nobill men, your

¹ Bertrand de Salignac de La Mothe Fénelon. He was Ambaſſador from France to England, and his Diplomatic Correſpondence during that period was printed for the Members of the Bannatyne Club, Paris, 1838-48. 7 vol. 8vo.

² Monsieur de Manningville, who was joined in embaſſy to Scotland with La Mothe Fénelon, in 1582, having for their object the freedom of King James from the confederated noblemen, and to move a treaty of aſſociation between that Prince and his mother Queen Mary; but the influence of Elizabeth, and the prevailing feeling in Scotland, rendered the objects of their embaſſy unattainable.

Honour may be affured that all is quiet heir, blessed be God, and daylie more and more apperance therof.

To the rycht honorable and my wery
guid lord S^r Francoys Welfching-
hame, Principall Secretary to her
Ma^{te}, and aue of hir Ma^{tis} most
honorable Privy Counfaile.

KING JAMES THE SIXTH TO DAVISON.

TRUSTY and weil-belovit, We greit you weil. We have directit oure richt trusty and weilbelovit fervantis Colonell William Stewart and Maister Johnne Coluile to oure dearest Sufter, to treat and deale with hir on certaine headis importing verie mekle to the interest of the standing anytie betuix ws, and the avoyding of all contrary occasions. Quhairin we will require yow rycht effectuaunlie to extend youre meane and credite to the furthering of thame to a fanorable and gude dispesche; and credite thame and ayther of thame in sic thingis as thay ar to assure yow of on oure behalff. Thus we committ yow to Godis gude proteccioun. From oure palace of Halyrudehous, the xxiiij day of Aprile 1583.

1583.
April 24.

Youre verie loving freind,

JAMES R.

To our trustie and weilbelouit Mr
Williame Dauidfone, Esquire.

KING JAMES THE SIXTH TO QUEEN ELIZABETH.

RIGHT excellent, richt heich and mychtie Princeffe, our dearest Sufter and consine, in our maist hartlie maner we recommede ws unto yow. According to our promeis maid in our former lettres, we have presentlie directit towardis you our richt trustie and weilbelouit feruantis Colonnell Williame Steuart, a man heirtofore weil acquentit and knawin in that

1583.
April 24.

realme, and presentlie in our gude fauour, accompaneit with Mr Johnne Coluille, quha careit our last meſſage vnto yow, in sic materis as tendis to the increas and continuance of the amitie and gude intelligence ſtanding betnix ws, and to the furetie and commoun benefite of ws baith, our dominions, and gude ſubiectes. Praying yow richt affeſſionſlic to grant vnto thame or ather of thame favorable audiece, and in that quihlk they fall ſpeik to yow in our behalf, fermelie to credite thame; returning to ws your gude anſwer thairvpon ſa ſone as convenientlie may be. And ſa reſting to the reſſait thairof, Richt excellent, richt heich and mychtie Princeſſe, our deareſt Sufter and couſine, we commit yow in the proteſtioun of the Almychtie. Gevin at our palais of Halyrudehouſe, the xxiiij day of Apryle 1583, in the ſextenth yeir of our reigne.

Yourre maift louing and affectionat Brother and couſin,

JAMES R.

To the richt heich, richt excellent
and mychtie Princeſſe, our deareſt
ſufter and couſine, the Quene of
England.

KING JAMES THE SIXTH TO QUEEN ELIZABETH.

1583.
April 24. RYCHT excellent, richt heich and mychtie Princeſſe, oure deareſt Sufter and couſine, in oure maift heartlie maner we commend ws vnto yow. Oure ſervaunt, Maifter Johnne Coluille, having to oure ſpeciall gude lyking and contentment reportit vnto ws in how gude part ye tuke the fute of oure gude ſervaunt James Hudſoun, youre borne ſubiect, recommendit be ws to his diligence and earneſt inſtance at youre hand, We can not but yeild yow oure verie heartlie thankis thairfore be this oure ſpeciall lettre, &c. 24 Aprile 1583.

Yourre maift louing and affectionate Brother and couſin,

JAMES R.

To, &c., the Quene of England.

KING JAMES THE SIXTH TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL OF
ENGLAND.

Richt trustie and richt weilbelouit coufingis and freindis, we greet yow hartlie weill. We have directit oure richt trustie and weilbelouit fervandis, Colonnell William Stewart and Mr Johnne Colville, to deale in oure behalf with oure dearest fuster the Quene, your foveraine, in sppeciall matteris tending greatlie to the increas of amitie and gude intelligence betwix ws, oure dominions and subiectes, Quhairvnto, as ye have alwayes hithertill provin constantlie affectit to the gude service of oure said soueraine, oure pleasure, and the commoun benefite and fuirtie of baith oure reaulmes and estatis, sa will we hartlie pray yow to continewe, and be the meanis that oure said seruantis, having gotten audience, may in convenient tyme refave a gude and fauorable answer, agreeable to oure expectation and the synceritie of oure meanyng in thay materis; Quhairof remitting the particularis to thair discours and declaratioun, quhome we desire yow earnistlie to credite, We commit yow in the protectioun of the Ahnyctie. Gevin at oure palais of Halyrudehous, the xxiiij day of Aprile 1583.

1583.
April 24.

Your very loving freind,

JAMES R.

To oure richt trustie and richt weilbelouit coufingis and vtheris of the Privie Counsaile of oure dearest fuster and confine the Quene of England.

BOWES TO WALSYNGHAM.

SIR,

The especial offices and continual pains taken in her Majesties service, to the great benefit of this present action, by Mr John Colville, Ambassador to her Ma^{te} from the King of Scotts, do worthily deserve thanks, and that he may be entertained with all favour and good will.

1583.
April 28.

Neverthelefs, that in memory of my duty in this part I may witness

the thing that is best known to me, and give testimony of his good deeds, always employed for her Majesties service and profit of this cause, I have thought good to accompany him herewith, recommending him and his said labours to your good favour and consideration, with humble request that he may receive entertainment answerable to his good will and actions diligently performed.

The Lords in this action have a great confidence, as well in his good affection and care to advance the good success of this cause (and chiefly in this negotiation present), as also in his known sufficiency to travail therein with such discretion as shall be for the advancement of the common causes, and answerable to their particular desires wherein they have instructed him, and required me to entreat you to show your good favour to him; aiding him from time to time with your good advice, and letting him know the progress of matters concerning these affairs, to the intent he may acquaint you with their minds, and employ himself as you shall direct, wherein you will find him ready to obey, and willing to do all that may profit this service. In this, I beseech you, let him know what I have written to you for the satisfaction of the Lords, according to my promise to the Lords in this part. The state of this country, as it stood at his departure, and the occurrences in the same, I commend to his report.

Thus, with mine humble duty, I pray God have you in his blessed keeping.

Edinburgh, the xxviiij of April 1583.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

1583.
May 7.

PLEIS your Honour, I am desyrit by my Lord Embassador, my college,¹ to advertis your Ho. that his Gardes at hame in Scotland are habil to dissolve in his absence, gif sum provision be nocht provydit for furnesing thame; tharfor he hes willit me desyr your Ho. to writt to Mr Bowes that sum money may be advancit to thame till his retourn. Indeid the

¹ Or colleague, Colonel William Stewart.

lyif of oure cauffe confistis in thame, and tharfor I can nocht bot recommend this matter to your L. guid discretion. Sik anffuer as pleis your Ho. to fend in this purpose I man schaw to him, tharfore pleis your Ho. mak it the more favourabill. Your Ho. will find gret honestie and treuth wyth Mr David Lyndfay, this berar, bot he hes no credeit from me. I haif committit to Mr Hudfone some other matteris quhiche I culd not find oportunitie to oppin to your Ho. yifternycht, quharin pleis your Ho. credeit him as myself. Sa I pray God preserve your L.

Your L. awin to be commandit,

Jo. COLVILLE.

Concerning his Ma^{tie} mariage sumthing I wald opin to your Ho. quhilk I can reveill to nane other, and vald glaidly haif oportunitie to spek wyth your Ho. tharupon. All other matteris I haif committit to James Hudfone.

To the rycht honorabill Sir Francoys
Welfchinghame, Secretary to her
Ma^{tie}, and one of hir most honor-
abill Privy Counsaile.

WALSYNGHAM TO BOWES.

SIR,

The Scottishe Ambassadors arryved here on Frydaye last, and had audience the Monday following, which shold have been sooner, had not it bene for the coming of a noble man out of Polonia, that hath made a voyage hither of purpose to see her Ma^{ty}; unto whom he was promised to have speedy acceffe, before the arryvall of the said Ambassadors. And for such particularities as they cold not deliver unto her Ma^{ty} at the said tyme of their first audience, my Lord of Hunfdon and I were appoynted to have conference with them in that behalfe; which was accordingly performed the Tuesday following at Sommerfett Houfe. They were futers that I wold directe you to laye out three hundrethe poundes more

1583.
May 9.

for the payment of the Gards, alleading that without some such supply the same must of necessity be discharged for want of entertainment otherwise, wherof much inconvenience was lykly to followe. I made her Ma^{ty} acquainted with the matter, who, not without some difficultie, did in th'end agree that you shold, as of yourselfe, lend them such a somme upon your own credit; which I pray you to stretch what you may for the performance thereof, weying the necessity of the cause, and how much it concerneth her Ma^{ty}'s service that the said Garde shold not be yet discharged for lack of entertainment. And if her Ma^{ty} shold happen to leave the burthen upon you, I will not fayle to see you myselfe discharged of the same. On Satterday next the said Ambassadors are appointed to have audience againe, so that I think by Wednesday or Thursday following they shall receive their despatche, but what kinde of dispatche it wilbe I do not yet knowe. This day her Ma^{ty} hath appointed to take some resolution in these causes: what the same may be you shall understand hereafter. In the meane while I comitt you to God. At Greenwich, the 9th of May 1583.

M. to Mr Bowes.

QUEEN ELIZABETH TO KING JAMES THE SIXTH.

1583.
May 17. RIGHT HIGH SIR, By the gentelmen your servants, Collonell William Stewart and Mr John Colvill, we have received at good length such matter as they had in chardge to deliver vs from you, amongis which Wee cannot but take most thankfully your good acceptation, as well of our former care had of your person and state, as also of th'advise wee have lately geven you; and are thereby greatly encouraged to continewe towards you like demonstration from tyme to tyme of the best effects wee may. And for the rest of the negotiation, Wee have from poynt to poynt answered the same particularly, in such fort as wee trust will fall out to your contentment. Yf otherwise ther shall rest anything wherin you receive not that satisfaction you desyre, the same being by you made knowen to our servant Bowes, ther resident, you shall find vs ready and

carefull to you to yeld you all reasonable satisfacion. And as for the Gent. themselves whose service you have used in this chardge, your choyce therin Wee cannot but greatly commend, as well for their sufficiency, as that wee find them well inclyned to do all good offices that tende to the nourishing and increase of such frendschippe betweene us which may prove both profitable for ourselves and comfortable for our subiectes ; being very glad to find you furnished with such faithfull and sufficient seruantis, whose wife and discreat condition of those thingis they receaved in chardge, and dilligence to perfourme all thinges that might be requyred in them, Wee cannot, without doing the Gent. wrong, but testifye vnto you, wishing their continewance about you, and encrease of mony such so well qualified for your service. And thus, Right, &c.

The xvij of Maie 1583.

From her Ma^{tie} to the K. of Scottes, by
Mr Coluile and Collonell Steuard.

STEWART AND COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

PLEIS your Honour, sollicite hir Ma^{tie} in the heides following :—

1583.

First, That command may [be] giffin to Mr Robert Bowes, hir Ma^{ties} ambassador, for delyvery of the Erll of Gowreis band, quhilk he hes refavit for the fowm of tuay thousand merkis.

May 18.

Nixt, Seing hir Ma^{ties} said Embassador hes fournefit certane othere fowmes (quhairof this berar can inform your Honour), by and attour the fowm forfaid, for intertenement of his Ma^{ties} Gardes ; That it may pleis hir Ma^{tie} gif him allowance tharof, ether be present delyvery, or elles be sic other mean as hir Hienes pleis beste.

Thirdlie, In respect the Gardis forfaid were leviat for halding his Ma^{tie} at this happy cours laitlie renewit wyth hir Hienes, and for preventing and repressing the commounemie of boyth thair Crownes, as weill in Scotland as for crossing the way to thame that wer fend from other Nations to interrupt the cours forfaid, and to draw his Ma^{tie} from the same ; That it may pleis hir Hienes tak sum guid ordour for payment

of tuay monethis pay reftand awand thame. Lyik your Honour lay befor hir Ma^{te} how neccffare this is to be done, and how acceptabill it may be to his Ma^{te} and the beft affected of his Nobilite; as alfo to remember how at the beginning of this a^{cti}oun the Lordis that interpryft the fame wer incoragit to be conftant, and promife maid to thame of affiftance boyth in men and money.

Last, we defyr to know fum fpecialite of this fowm quhilk hir Ma^{te} giffis his G. in takin of hir favor; and at quhat tyme and place the fame falbe delyverit, thynking it moft convenient (gif fo wer hir Ma^{tes} lycking) that ether the hail fowm, or ellis ane part thair of, were delyverit heir to this berar, the Embaffador's fervand; and heirof we humbly defyre to haif your L. heftly and good anfwer. Committing your L. to Goddis prote^{cti}on. From London, the 18th of May 1583.

Your Honouris loving and affured freindis, to be commandit
in all lefum maneir,

WILLIAM STEWART.
JO. COLVILLE.

To the richt honorable Sir Frances
Walfinghame, Kn^t, cheif Secretary
to her Ma^{tie}, and one of her Hienes
Privie Counfale.

BOWES TO WALSYNGHAM.

1583.
June 10.

It maye pleafe your Honour, your feuerall lettres of the 29, 30, and lafte of Maye lafte I have received. And purpofinge to haue traueiled with the King in the contents thereof (cheiflie for Mr Arch. Dowglas), I did therefore fend my feruante to provide me a lodginge as nere the Courte as coulde be had. Whervpon Mr John Coluile was directed to fignifie to me, that the Kinge prayed me not to thinke longe to be folitary for a while; fhewinge therewith, that fo foone as the King fhould come to any towne where I might be comodiouflic lodged, that then he woulde wryte for me. Nevertheles, thinkinge it mete to fpeake with the King fhortlie after th'Ambaffadors have made their report of their

doings in their negotiation in England, and vpon the brute of the death of Lenox (which litherto can receave no credyte in this realme)¹ therefore my seruante returned yesternight to me, with aduertifement that by the King's direccion a lodginge should be taken for me at Cowper (foure Scottish miles from Fawkland), whervnto I intend (God willinge) to repaire to-morrowe.

Collonell Stewarde and Mr John Colvile came to and lodged at Leith the iijth hereof, refusinge to visite the King and their frends in Edenburghe vntil they had first sene the King. Yet being desierous to speake quietlie with me, I came to them in the eueninge, fyndinge them (after longe discourse of all things) to be well satisfied with the answeres receaved, trufinge that the same should likewise well like and contente the King. But they complayned very gretlie of one oute rage offered by Marmaduke or John Hedworth (which of them they knowe not) to William Keith, (one of the King's chamber, and in his especiall favour,) declaringe, that Mr Keith followinge by poste and alone, his companyes passed before, betwixte Duresme² and Newcastle mett Mr Hedworth, and three others with him, that asked him verie rudelie who they were that wente before; and he answerunge shortelie, that they were Scottishmen, Mr Hedworth said, (as they affirme,) That he was a Scotts villaine; whervnto Keith replied, That therein th'other lied. Vpon which words Hedworth offred to have frycken him with the sticke then in his hand, and otherwise farre abused him, which he indured vntill two other Scottishmen ouertooke him, to whom he opened his grieffe, and prayinge them to turne backe with him, they three did ouertake Hedworth and th'other three intringe into the towne of Duresme, where Mr Keith began to recounte to Hedworth the injuries done him; and whiles they were in debate thereof, Hedworth seruaunte drue his sword on Keith, stroke and hurte him on the legge; at the sight whereof, one of the other two Scottishmen stroke and hurte the said seruaunte fore on the breste. The foraye growinge thereon, th'officers of the towne putt the parties in sonder, and after carried them all to the Justices of Peace, then presente in Duresme; who, after deliberate examynacion and hearinge of the matter, did with greate curtesye geve order for the saltie and convoie

¹ See page 33, note 2.

² Durham.

of the Scotchmen towards Newcastle. They say, they had rather commend the true vnderstandinge of this caufe to the reporte of the Iustices that hard the fame, and to the testymonyes of uch fas can geue beste wytues, then their owne tales or declaracion; concludinge that the wrongs done to Mr Keith was intollerable, and deserued due chastytment. Sithence which tyme I have both bene advertised that the King is exceedingly greived with the fact, and also bene moved to geve you vnderstandinge of th'accidente, which is to me no other wise knowne then is before mentioned; and therefore I leave the triall and order of the fame to your good diseration.

At the firste acceffe of Collonell Steward and Mr John Coluile to the Courte, they found the King redie to remove from Dunfermlinge to Fawkland, whervpon the King receiued a shorte reporte of their doings, resoluinge both (vppon better leifure) to perve euerie particular answere made to ech feuerall article committ to their charge, and also to call some few and especial counsellors to aduise with them what to do further therein; for which cause Dunfermling¹ and the Clerk Register² went yesterdaye to the Courte, Montrosse and other noblemen wilbe there within 2 or 3 daies; and it is thought meete to call a gretter number, with th'aduise of these assembled, to perswade the King to repaire to Sanct Andrewes with more speed, to th'intente the Noblemen resorting to him maye be the more conveniently lodged. Wherein, albeit the King hath no will to hasten his remoue from Fawkland, yet he shalbe greatlie intreated thervnto, for th'expedicion of th'assemblie of the noblemen and counsellors that cannot aptlie come together at any other place; and who, at their Convention, shall deliberate for the returne of aduertisement to her Ma^{tie} of the King's thanckfull acceptance of the resolucions deliuered, and for th'appointment of the tyme and place, with persons for th'execucion of th'accords of the League, together with all other partes and complements requisite to be done herein.

The King appeareth outwardlie to imbrace th'end and succeffe of the late negotiacion in England with satisfaccion; but he hath lett fall that his expectacion is not fullie answered in all things; and aboue all

¹ Mr Robert Piteairn, Commendator of Dunfermline, and Secretary.

² Sir Alexander Hay of Easter Kennet.

others, her Ma^{te} lettre, address'd and deliuered to him by Collonell Steward, hath geuen him most comforte and contentment. Of the King's further disposicion and likinge of the said successe, and of the myndes of others in the same, (wherein grett diuerfitie is allreadie scene,) I shall geve you aduertifmente with more certaintie after my cominge to the Courte, which, by th'occasion sufficientlie appearinge hereby to you, I have thus longe deferred.

Downe¹ hath bene with the King at Dunfermlinge, folicitinge (as it said) the cause laste to his credyte by Manninguile, whereon Mr David Collace hath frindly warn'd him to geve over the pursuite of suche offices, that shall so offend the LL^s with the King, as they will surely take revenge on him. But William Coluile hath more rowndlie lett him knowe, that if he shall not take him selfe vpp in tyme, and with speed, that he will be taught what it is to seeke the ouerthrowe of a good cause, and of Noblemen that will no longer endure the wrongs offred by him. He is retired to his howse, promisinge to deale noe further in offices offensyve to the LL^s; and some thincke that this good warninge shall suffice to make him kepe promise. Thus, referringe all others to the nexte, and with myne humble duetie, I praye God haue you in his blessed keepinge. Edenburgh, the xth of June 1583.

Your Honor's at comandement.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

RIGHT Honorabill, my humill commendacions of service remembret, 1583.
sen my cuming to Scotland I haif ever kepit my chalmer, efter that anis June 25.
I had spokin his Ma^{te}, quhilk hes bein the caus of my lang silence.

The estait of our matteris fuirlie is werie quiet; and this last werk of God in the Dukis departure² hes maid his Ma^{te} in werie guid disposition, for now he thinkis he is quyit of all promifes, and that he falbe vyfer in

¹ James Stewart, Commendator of St Colme's Inch, in 1581, was created Lord Doun.

² The Duke of Lennox, who died at Paris, on the 26th of May 1583. It was some time before the certainty of his death was made known.

tyme coming. At my speaking wyth his Ma^{te}, he tuk our answers in wery guid part; and now the 28th of this instant his Counsaile is to convene at Sanctandres, quhair his Ma^{te}, wyth thair advyse, will accept the same answers wyth sic sincerite as thair merit. He will sehaw his nobill men that he will walk trewly wyth hir Ma^{te} by all otheris prencis in the world: he will defyre thame to assent tharunto, and that name of thame urge him to the contrare; and this falbe donn, be Goddis grace, in the presence of your awin Embassador.

Ane letter of thanksgiving shall be send to hir Ma^{te} with the acceptation of hir loving answers.

Ane sufficient man, affectionat to this guid cours, and enemye to the Duik and Arrennis proceedingis, shall be send to be resident with yow.

This is so far as I promesed your Honour, and I hoip in God it shall wery schortlie performed; and as it pleas your Honour, at hir Ma^{tes} command, farder to informe me, I shall, be Goddis grace, declair boyth that I haif credeith and zeill in execution thair of.

My Colleg hes disgracit himself sumquhat be taking upon him to meddill in matteris concerning the Duik and Arren without advyse of the nobill men jonit in the cause; quhill he did by¹ my opinion, for I ever socht to perswad him, that his Majesties greatnes consistit in the favour of thame that hes bein most faythfull to his Grace, and the moving of him to be affectionat to ony other thair enemyis wald be dangerous to the practeferis thair of.

It wer tedious to repete all the paradoxis that he debatit aganis me, from my coming to Scotland to my returning; quhillis indeid wes wer[ie] pernitiis to boyth the Crownes.

The Priour of Blantyre and Mr David Collas wald be comfortit from time with your letteris, for thair keip ane honest part.

Thir lait piraceis woundis the hartis of all guid men out of mesour, for thair is none spoylit bot your awin frendis; therefore, my Lord, lett hir Ma^{te} be informit, that the same may be stayit, for now I haif no answer to mak bot that theis base misorderis will reduce all to guid ordour; gif it shall othervyis, all our travell is in vain.

¹ "By," beyond, contrary to.

This berar is my fervand.¹ He hes loffit all that he had in the sehup quhair our stuf wes, for the gretest losf fel on me, my fervandis, Mr Samuell Cokbrom, Mr John Proven, and sum otheris. As to my Colleg, he left all his stuf behind, upon hoip to be returnit Legier, quhairin be Goddis grace he fall fail. As to that quhilk pertenis to myself, I compt nocht of it, and the rest may fpair till sum guid ordour may be takin; bot fairly this gentill man, gif he be nocht helpit, he is lost. His skayth is no gret fowm. I beleif your Honour will haif respecte to him for my request, for the pitifulnes of his caus movis me to insist for him. He wes wrakkit be Arren, and hes ane gret number of childering, [and all] that restit is now takin from him. I pray God sen all that robry had fallin on me, for than suld haif ben no murmuration for yt. Thair is also ane other piracy meid fence, moir barbarus nor the other, and the pur men cruelly tormentit. Pleis your Honour, communicat the premissis wyth my Lord Lechifter, and pray his L. sehaw no thing concerning my Colleg to Thomas Fouller, for he will reveill it againe. Sa the Lord pre-serve your Honour. From Edinburgh, the 25 of Jun 1583.

Your Honouris to be commandit in lesun maneir,

JO. COLVILE.

Quhat favour this berar findis, pleis your Honour advertis me thairof.

To the rycht honorabill Sir Francys
Wellingham, Knycht, cheif Secre-
tary of England, and ane of hir Ma^{ties}
most honorabill Privy Counsale.

KING JAMES THE SIXTH TO WALSYNGHAM.

TRUSTIE COSEN,

Youre courtesie and favor, shewed me in our affaires committed
latelie to oure trustie and familiar seruitour Colvile, doeth minister vnto

1583.
Oct. 23.

¹ James Douglas : (Bowes Correspondence, p. 463.)

vs juſte cauſe to give you hartie thanks for the fame, and to conſider thereof with frendlie acquyſtall, as occaſion ſhalbe offered. And albeit theſe goode offices of youres be ſo acceptable vnto vs as can be, yet in ſo muche the more doe we eſteme thereof, as in that you have at this tyme given ſuch prooffe of your fidelitie to the Quene your Sovereigne, oure deareſt ſiſter and coſen, and declared your affection to the amitie betwixt theis two Crownes; wherein, as on th'one parte Wee doubt not of youre continuance, ſo on our parte againe ye maie aſſure youre ſelves to ſynde all correſpondence that maie move you to goe forwarde, bothe in youre dutiefull behaviour towards her and in youre frendlie goode will towards vs. At oure burghe of Edinburgh, the xxth of Oöober, [1583].

Your verie loving frende,

JAMES R.

To our truſtie coſen Sir Francis
Walingham, M^r Secretarie.

COPY OF THE REMISSION OFFERED TO MR JOHN COLVILLE.

1583. OURE Souerane Lord, of his ſpeciall grace and fanouris, ordanis and
[Dec. 3.] Remiſſioun to be vnder his Greitt Seill, in due forme, to his louitt Maifter
Johnne Colnile, Chantour of Glaſgow, ffor the treſſonable conſulting,
treating, devyſing, artt, pairt, raide, counfell, aſſiſtance, and ratihabitoun
of the maiſt odious and vnnaturall ſurpryſe, reſtraint, captiuitie, and
detentioun of his Hienes perſone, attemptit and committit at Ruthuen
in the moneth of Auguſt, the yeir of God i^mv^lxxxii yeiris, and profe-
quuted thairefter at Sanct Johnneſtoun, Striuling, Halyrudhous, and
vtheris pairtis of this realme: Making, paſſing, and ſubſcryving of quhat-
fumeuir bandis, with quhatfumeuir perſone or perſones, to that effect, or
the maintenance or defence thairof, beſydes his Hienes full conſent,
priuitie, and knowledge, with all that hes followit or may follow thair-
vpoun; Togidder with quhatfumeuir actioun, pane, crime, or danger the
ſaid Maifter Johnne and his airis mycht haif incurrit, or may incur thair-
throw, be the lawis and conſuetude of this realme, and Actis of Parlia-

ment; And als for all actiones, crymes, transgressionis, and offensives, of quhatfumeur wecht or qualitie thai be of, done, attemptit, or assitit be the said Maister Johnne, quhatfumeur tyme bygane preceeding the date heirof; The detestable murthour of his Hienes darrest Fader and twa Regentis, witchecraft, incest, fyre, murthour, rauissing of women, thift and reiffait of thift, allanerlie exceptit; Remitting and discharging the same to the said Mr Johnne and his airis, for his Hienes and successoris for euir, be thir presentis; and that preceptis be direct heiryvoun in forme, as effeiris. Subferuit be our Souerane Lord at _____, the _____ day of _____, the yeir of God i^mv^e fourscore thrie yeiris.

COPY OF THE LICENCE OFFERED TO MR JOHN COLVILE.

OUR Soueraigne Lord ordaines ane letter to be made vnder the Priuy Seale, in dewe form, to his lovit Mr Johnne Coluile, geuand and grauntand him Lycence to departe of and passe furthe of this Realme to whatfomeuer parte beyond sea, the realmes of England and Ireland only excepted, therein to remaine dureing the space of three yeares next after the date hereof; and will and graunts, and for his Hienes and successoris decernis and ordanis, that the said Mr Johnne, for his remayneing and departing furth of this Realme, as said is, shall incurre na skaith or daunger in his person or goods, nor be called or accused therefore, eyther criminally or civilly, notwithstanding whatfomever our lawes, actis, letters patents, or proclamacions made in the contrair, anent the quhilk his Ma^y dispenses by thir presents: Providinge alwayis, that the said Mr Johnne finde caution presently, vnder the paine of five thousand pounds, to departe betwixt the day and date hereof and the first of January next to come, but longer delay; and that he returne nocht again to any of the three Realms aforesaid, dureinge the space above mentioned, without our speciall licence or warrant; and that also, the said Mr Johnne behave himselfe as a dutifull and obedient subiect to vs, and do nor attempt nothinge to the hurte or preiudice of vs or our estate, dureing his absence; and that before his departing, he no way repayre neir the place of his Majesties residence by the space of thirty miles, otherwise

1583.
Dec. 3.

this his Lycence to be null, and of na strenght, force, nor effect; and that the said letter be extended in the best forme, with all claufes nedefull. Subscribed by our said Soueraigne Lord, at Haliruidhoufe, the third of December 1583.

COLVILLE TO HIS MAJESTY'S COMMISSIONERS.¹

1583.
Dec. 8.

Rycht Wor., efter my hartly commendation of fernice. Your last letter, of the dait the third, we refaut the fevint of this instant; to quhilk I thocht good to gif particular answer for my selfe, for that my cause is different from the rest,² in respect I am in degree inferiour to thame, and hes bein, in body and goods, perfewit with greater feuerity nor ony of thame all.

Your Worship writtis, that my relaxation, remission, and licence is consignit in the Clerk Register's hands, and that the Licence to intreit with vs heir is prorogat to the xth of this instant; willing vs in the mein tyme to lest advertisement to our cautioners for subscrivyng of sic obligations as is thocht expedient for that purpose, that we may depart befor the first of January 1583 from England, Ireland, and Scotland.

Albeit for my part I can nocht bot maist humlie thank your Worship for your pains, knowinge perfytly your honest and faithfull meninge, for quhilk I rest oblefit to serve and honour yow so longe as I leif; yet gif I had bein so happy as to haif had conference with yow, I am of opinyon to haif lettin yow cleirly see that no subtiller devise culd haif bein found to our prejudice nor this is. In declarynge heirof, feinge all other conference is cutt of bot be writt, pleis your Worship beir with my prolixite, because I man³ fra the begynnyng deduce the hail proces led aganis me, for my awin justification and declaration of my enemyes malice.

First, beinge bedfaut, through feiknes contracted in his Ma^{ties} service, I am chargit in ward (*indicta causa*) within the Castle of Edinburgh, quhilk

¹ The words enclosed within brackets, and a few corrections, are supplied from a copy in Colville's own hand, (Wodrow MSS., Folio vol. xlii. No. 40.) It is indorsed, "Copy of my last letter sent to his Majestie's Commissioners."

² See note to page 43.

³ "I man," I must.

notwithstandyng, with all humility I obeyit. Therfra beyng relevit, vpon caution of greit fowmes that I fuld remayne within the portis of Edinburgh [I tuik ane quiet chalmer within the said toun, of purpofe to have remanit thair] till it had pleifit his Ma^{tie} call me to my compt; lyke as be my letters I moft humlie defyrit his Hienes fo to do, cravyng alfo that I might be confrontit with my accufers. And quhilleft as I lay in this fort, baith bound vnder greit fowmes of mony, and vnder the hevy burthlyng of feiknes, I receaued aduertifementis fra fondry credible men that Colonell Stewart wald haif my life, ether *per fas aut nefas*; quhairvnto I gaif fmall credit, as one that nether diffydit his foverain's rychteuernes nor his awin innocencie. Till at lenth the Pronoft of Ed^r cummis to my chamber, makis inquiry for me, and flawes an warrant to my Wife that he had commandment from his Ma^{tie} to gard me within my fayd chamber with twenty fugeors, vpon my awin expenfis. The novelty of this procedyng, to gard me with fic ane number as I was not abill to fustein, not knawin quhiddir thay wer elected be my enemy or not, and beyng [already] tyit fast aneuch by feiknes and bands of cautionery, togidder with the fuddane credeit quhilk the fayd Colonell, my enemy, raife vnto, tending to the difplefure of many honeft men, caufit me, for feir of my life, and for na other motion (as God knawis), to abfent my felfe from their violence. Tharefter my cautioners is purfewit, and the fowme of ane thowfand pundis rigorouffie vptakin, and the remanent of my goods confiscat and brocht in to his Ma^{ty} vfe; and in all this tyme nether durft I or ony in my name compeir to make declaration of my innocency, or to intreat for favour.

Duryng all this fpace I ftudeit mekill for quhat caus his Majestie fuld haif bein movit to caft me downe to the appetit of my deceitfull enemye, and findinge no refolution at the first, yit at lenth I hopit that be his Hienes proclamations fun certenty of his Grace's meanginge wald appeir; and quhilleft I was thus perplexit, four proclamations ar published,¹ all fo generall, captious, and ambiguns, and fo contrarius

¹ In Colville's own transcript, the dates of these proclamations were given as follows, but afterwards deleted: "Daitit at Perth the penult of Julij 1583, the second at Falkland the xxi of September, the thrid at Stirling the xxiii of October, the fourt at Stirling the last of October."

to the forme vfit aganis me, [as in ane collection gatherit of the same, I haif noted,] that be thame I was cassin in greter dout nor I was before. Bot vpon receipt of your first letter, funquhat again I was incouragit, thinkyng that accordyng to the tenour of the licence grantit vnto yowe, ye fuld haif callit vs [heir] to sum place quhair we mycht haif faillie conferrit with yow, presentit our offeris and humill supplications, and giffin yow refonis to move his Ma^{tie} to pitie. Bot vnderstandinge sen syne the shortnes of tyme grantit unto yow for that effect, and be your last letter syndyng that it is not thought to his Ma^s honour ye fuld cum to vs; as also, that the declaration of his Ma^s mynd debarris yow fra conference or refavinge our offeris, in respect of the alternatyve decreit there sett downe aganis vs, ether to enter ward or to depart the thre Realmes: be thir refonis it appeirs weill it hes never bein menit that ye fuld intercommune with vs, or that this treaty fuld ony way tend to our comfort. Mairover, all that is offerit is ether impossibiliteis to me, or (gif I fall agre thairvnto) thay carry sic reproche with thame as fall tend to my perpetual sehame, as may weill appeire be the refons following:—

The xxij of November, licence is grantit to your Wo^s to intreit and intercommune with all the distreffit, as weill without as within the realme, betwix the day foresaid and the first of December. We refaut not your first letter till the xxvij of November. To fend yow perfynt ansuers be writ from Berwicke to Ed^r, mekill less to confer or intercommoun with yow in so short tyme, wes impossibill. Bot ye will fay the day is prorogat to the x of December; quhilk in deid is trew, bot we ar not aduertit of the prorogation before the vij of the same, sa restit to vs bot only thre dayes to writ to our cautioners, to advise with the forme of our remissions, and to do all thyngs appertenynge to sa weighty an cause, gif this be possibill or not is easy to be jugit. Beside this, can I furnis caution for fyve thousand pund, seinge all that I am vailliat at is already takin fra me? Or fall I be so vnfaithfull to my cautioners (in case I can haif ony) as to bind thame for me in so gret sownes for obseryng the points followinge—to wit, That I fall depart before the first of Januar furth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and nocht return duryng the space of thre yeirs to ony [part] of the thre defendit Realmes,

nether practife any thing to the preiudice of his Ma^{ty} estait duryng myne absence, feinge it is not possible to me to be furnished to so costly and dolorus ane voyage in so short tyme, nether can I be certane that, beyng vpon the cost of Flanders or France, I shall nocht be driven be tempest to sum forbiddin harbory. And for my practising, albeit I shuld continually sleip in my bed, my enemyes will nevir cease still to suborne his G. that I am practisand, and the interpretation of my behaviour and doings will ever be as my fayd enemyes thinkis good to judge thereon; sua I can luik for na better favour for my cautioneris now nor I fand befor, beand trappit in this same fort. Bot of all thir impossibilities, I thinke no thyng in respect of the Remission offerit to me. Shall I, be takin remissionis, condem my selfe, and justify the craftie treason of myne enemy? Or gif I shuld receive ony, is it not necessare that I be aduifit with the form, and knawe the cryme objected aganis me? Gif it be for the attemptat done the last yeir, (quhilk they wald make his Ma^{ty} beleyve to be the onely fact sen his Coronation worthy of punishment,) feinge the same is baith allowit be the Assembly of the Kirke authorifed for the tyme, with his Ma^{ty} awin Commissioners, and be his Ma^{ty} awin approbation, as weill be manyfald lettres fend to her Ma^{ty} of England, as be his awin acts of Seeret Counsell, and with consent of his Estats, quhy shuld I, for my private security, prejudge the votis and contentis of so many famous and godly men, be takin remission for that quhilk they haif all so sollempnitly ratefeit? Or gif I shall take remission for other practisis alledgit, commyttit baith before and efter the fayd publick attemptat, as semis to be merit be sum of the foresayd Proclamations, fairly, vpon knowlege of thai practises in particuler, I shall ether justify my part befor all indifferent men, or ellis confes my selfe vnworthy of your intercession. It is not for ony evill offices betwixt the Hamyltons and Dowglassis, nor for the sellyng of the Kynge my maister to England, nor for the foreknowlege that his Ma^{ty} shuld haif beyn imprifonit in Louchlevin, nor for partakinge with theis that wald haif delynerit his Grace to certen English shippes at Santandros, that I am puniflit: for all their calumneis ar so frivolouse that I beleif my gretest enemy is nowe ashamit to speke of thame. Bot God hes justly puniflit me for my secreet finnes, and he is my levyng witness that my Souerane is evill

informit of me. I haif refit too muche vpon my awin judgement, forgettynge my God; and nowe I fynd the fruitis of my foly. God hes justly dejected me; bot I trust in His mercie he fall ether lift me vp, and declair my innocencie to the ward, or els fend me patience to abide His visitation. This is the fowme of the proces laid aganis me, quhilk I am assurit ony indifferent man may [easily] see to be most hard and rigorous; for quhat can be devisit aganis the cruell murthereris of his Ma^{tes} Father and Regentis that is not ether intendit or execut aganis me? I was first wardit, my goods confiscat, and now, because they can not possesse my body, they wald banish me all Nations quhair I may have comfort or exercife of trewe Religion, perswadinge me, be relavinge remission, to incur perpetuall ignoininy and sehame, menyng (as apperis), seyng they can not haif my life, [yet at least,] to spoill me of my honestie, as they haif done the rest of my good fortune. Bot of all this I nether blame his Ma^{tes}, nor na ancient nobleman that is beside his Hienes, quhom nixt his Grace in my hart I reverence and honour, praynge to God daylie for their preservation and weillfare. I blame only sic personis as hes ever levit *ex prada et rapinis*, quhois indignation I beir because I wald not agree with thair deceitfull wayes, quhilk how farr they fall tend to his Ma^{tes} prejudice, and calamity of all good men within that nation, will shortly appear.¹

Last of all, that your Wor.^{ship} may yit be more perswadit of myne innocencie, and to the effect no signe of obstinacy appear in me, and that ye may haif forfabill arguments to intreit his Grace to haif pitie vpon me, pleis yowe offer with all humility in my name, That an competent day beyng appointed for my tryall, I fall present my selfe yit (as I ever merit), with all humilitie, to be jugit and vfit accordyng to his Ma^{tes} lawes for ony thyng can be laid to my chardge sen his Coronation, providyng it may pleise yow first get me relaxit, that I may the better travell for my selfe, and nixt gif me your bandis and assurit [be your] promises that I fall receyve no violence by [beside] forme of lawe, at the pleasure and appetit of my enemyes; quhilk maner of procedinge fall proife to be moir honorable to his Ma^{tes}, and the nerer way to punis me (gif I be an offender), nor in this sort to banis me, confiscue² my goods,

¹ "Will dayly moir and moir appear."—(Wodr. MS.)

² "Confiscate."—(Ib.)

and compel me to reſaiſ remiſſion before I be convicted of ony cryme. Bot gif it be ſo that your Wor. can not make me aſſured in the premiſſes, then I humlie pray yow to report my innocent part to his Ma^{tie}, that his Grace be nocht movit vpon the vntrewthfull furniſes of my enemies ether to miſlike of my doings, or to publiſ ony newe proclamacion to my prejudice; bot that his Hienes, vnderſtandyng weill the ſincerity of my meaninge, and redynes to ſatiffy his pleaſure ſo far as lyes in my power, may be movit to compaſſion, and others my frends (gif thay be yit doutfull of my [intention and] procedyngs) through your teſtimony may be reſoluit, and accordyng to that charitable commiſeration quhilk trew Chriſtians aught to haif of others, may be movit to lament my pitifull ditres, and be thair ernest prayeris to Almychty God, and humill ſuit to his Ma^{tie} my ſouerane, may call and inſiſt for my releif. Thus, humlie cravyng pardon for my tedious letter, I pray God preſerve yow all, and grant me his hability to do as acceptable ſervice as ye haif weill merited at my hand. Writtin from Berwik, in haſt, the viij of December 1583,

Be yours alway to be commandit wyth ſervice,

Jo. COLVILLE.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

PLEIS your Honour, be the copy of the Licenſe offerit to me, and of my Anſuer ſend to the Commiſſionaris' apointit to intreit wyth ws heir, your Honour may perſaiſ the hard form vsit aganis me, and to quhat extremite I am drivin. I haif no refuge but ſtill to appeill your L. accuſtomit bounte and favour, as to my only patrone. And ſen my abode heir femis inprofitabill, pleis your Honour lett me know quhidder I fall remane heir or cum up, that I may be imployit in any fort may be moſt

1583.
Dec. 9.

¹ In Calderwood's History there is inserted, along with the Licenſe and Remiſſion to Colville, (supra, pp. 36, 37,) the copy of a paper entitled "A Declaration of the Innocencie, evill handling, with the offers in end, of my Lord Commendator of Cambuskenneth, the Laird of Cleiſh, and Mr Johne Colvill; Presented to His Majesties Commiſſioners, directed to them from his Hienesſe."—(History, vol. iii. p. 752-759.) It has no date, but was evidently written at this time

acceptabill to hir Ma^{te} and your L. Concerning the matteris of Scotland, I can not fay quhat to think thair of, for I am betwix hoip and despair. Thair is indeid ane vniverfall mifeont[ent]ment, and yet I fe few haif sic courage as so honest ane caufs requires. It may be that sum good matter fall out before I can reſaif your Honouris anſuer, for Angus, Rothefs, and Gowry, wyth sum otheris, moſt of necellite ether tak ſumquhat in hand, or ellis peris; and ſuirly gif thingis had nocht fallin out far by expectation, Angus had mendit all thingis or now, as I dout nocht your Honour is fully advertetit by Mr Theſaurer. Sa, reſing vpon your L. good anſuer, I humlie tak my leiſ, committing your L. to Goddis bleſſed proteſtion. From Bervik, the ix of December 1583.

Be your Honouris awin ever to be commandit wyth ſervice,

To the rycht honorabill Sir Francis
Walſinghame, Knycht, &c.

JO. COLVILLE.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

1583-4.
Mar. 13.

It may pleis your Honour, albeit I luik wery ſchortlie to be in England, yit ſeing this gentill man, Maifter Cwnyghame, upon his journey, I culd do na les nor accompany him wyth theis few lynis, which ar moſt concerning his Maifter's eſſaris. Sumquhat I oppenit to your L. of this purpoſ at my laſt being in England, bot nocht ſa fully as the gretnes of the matter required, whiche importis na les aduancement to his Ma^{te} eſtait nor ſuirtie to our awin, quharof the effect is this:—Hir Ma^{te} had bein beneficiall to my Sovereange and his hoill countre, for quhilk cauſe the Miniſtry, the meſt part of Borrowis and Barronis wythin the realme, profeſſors of trew religion, agknewlegis the ſame, and nixt to thair awin Sovereange, refervis an ſpeciall dewetie to hir Ma^{te} by all princes in the worlde. Alſo the hail nobill men that ar joynit in this lait caus ar of the ſame mynd, cheiffie the Erlis of Angus, Mar, Bothuell, Marſhall, Gowry, Glencarne, and Kaitneſ; the Lordis Lyndſay, Boyd, Cathcart; the Maifters Glammis, Oliphant, Forbeſ; wyth ane guid number of the

Prelatis of Kirk ; and the King him selfe, be the faythfull information of the weill affected that hes his Ma^{tie} care, is reducit to the self same knowledge, and no hoip bot that he fall continew in the self same disposition. So that the treuthe is, as ever matters fall out auang us, hir Ma^{tie} will haif ane gret commandement wythin this Realme, howsoever hir enemeis and ours brag in the contrar. Yit notwithstanding of all this assurance, it can nocht be vnprofitabill to joyne sic others to this number as may be lawfully conquered, for the better fortification of the caus, sa the same may stand wyth hir Ma^{tie} guid lyiking ; for whiche caus I haif travellid that all querrellis betuix the Nobill men forsaid and the Lord Hamiltoune mycht be put in obliuion, and I haif done sa far, that theis quha wes gretest enemeis to that hous hes now changit thair opinion to the contrare, because of the zeill thair find in the said Lord Hamiltoune, bayth to religion and amitie betuix the Crownes ; so that now gif the matter wer anes proponit for him, and referrit to the consument of counsaile heir, the question wald nocht be gret. Yit this is kept wery secreit, and thair is na impediuent saife only ane, quhairof this gentill man can inform your Honour ; as also of the way how the same salbe mest directlye proponit, which your L. fall find sa resonabill and propir for the advancement of the caus as na other moyen can sein sa profitabill ; for gif anis the Lord Hamiltoune may be maid ane Scottis man, theis thre effectis at leif fall follow :—

First, Huntley his nepley, Mortoun his cousing-germane, Crawford his neir cousing, Egleintoun his brother-in-law, Caffillis his sone-in-law, Rothes, alliat wyth his sons, and Hereis his dependar, wald all streighte misknaw the Duik of Lenox, and tak thame to the freindship of the said Lord, which I know to be certane.

Nixt, the present Erll of Arren (the gretest enemie that England hes efter his power, and quho hes spokin in his insolence wery wreverendly of hir Ma^{tie}) durft nocht abyed his prefence, and sa be restoring of ane freind, tuay gret enemeis fuld be disgracit.

Last, the confederatts of this caus fuld be sa forteseit as that nane wythin this realme durft presume to speike of the Frenche cours. And this is ane matter quhairof I haif bein wery cairfull, and quhairin I humlie craif your Honour's fauour, guid will, and assistance, seing the

fame so necessary for boyth the Crownes. Referring mair ampill information heirof to the sufficiency of the berar, and my awn's cumming; and fa for the present I nest humlie tak my leif, committing your L. to Goddis bleffed protection. From Edinburgh, the xij of Martij 1583.

Concerning our dyat, and all effaris heir, this berar can schaw your L., quhom pleis your L. trest.

Your L.' to be commandit in all lefum maneir,

Jo. COLVILLE.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

1583-4. No news from Scotland, faving that the hoill countrie is mervelous
Mar. 19. malcontent. London, 19th March, [1583-4.]

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

1583-4. PLEIS you Honour, fend the enclofit with the nixt commodite to your
Mar. 23. Legier in France, to be delyuerit to ane Hammiltoun of the King of France gard. Concerning the Bischop, the moir I think of that matter, the moir necessaire I think it that he and all strangeris of his opinioun wer removit, for it is a commune proverbe, *hostes si intus sunt, frustra clauduntur fores: neque antequam expellantur tute cubandum est.* I moit humlie thank your Honour of your vnderferuit favour, and I pray God mak me abill to do you acceptabill service, nocht only to your Honour in particular, bot to this hoill estait for your caufs. The Lord fend your Honour good and long helthe.

Your Honouris wholly to be commandit,

[Indorsed, 23d Martij, 1583.]

Jo. COLVILLE.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

PLEIS your H. The newis ar good ; for the first, I pray God the succces may be as good as the caus is honest. Your Honour makkis mention of ane letter inclofit from Efter Wemes, quhiche I haif nocht refavit. To-morrow I am redy to await upon your L., at sic hour as your L. pleis apoint me be this berar. To quhiche tyme I continew forder, praying the eternell God to preserve your Honour in helthe of body and faull. From London, the vi of Apryll 1584.

1584.
April 6.

Your Honouris wholly to be commandit,

To the rycht honorabill S^r Francis
Wellinghame, Knycht, hir Ma^{tie}
cheif Secretary.

JO. COLVILLE.

COLVILLE TO THE LAIRD OF CLEISH.

MY LOVING BROTHER,

I refavit your letter the xiiij of this instant, quhiche was wery acceptabill to me in all faving quhair yow gif me moir prais nor I can deserve. Quhat ye haif written in name of the Nobill men my wery good Lordis wyth me hes sufficient credeit, as ye defyir; and your faythfull and honest cair in this good caus hes purchedit to your self no small reputation wyth otheris.

1584.
April 16.

Referving the substance of your articles, bot adding tharunto sum other petitions most necessary for the tyme, and omitting sum thingis mentionat be yow quhiche can nocht be defyrit presently wythout prejudice of the caus, I haif reduct the hail to the form wythin inclofit. The particular answeris tharunto can nocht be so hastily obteanit as yow beleif, boyth in respect of the gravite of the said matter, and present occupation of this Estait, as well wyth domestique as foren affaris; bot in general hir Ma^{tie}, be expressing hir gratius and motherly cair of the

faid Nobill mennis weill doing, declaris evidently hir loving affection to thame; for except thai find thaim self of sufficient strengthe to wythstand thair enemeis, sche is afrayit to se thame interpryis, esteming wyth hirself that gif the faid Nobill men fall perishe, then fall sche be destitute of so many faythfull freindis. Forder your letter desyris no particular answer till the Lordis be convenit, and ane commissioner send hidder from thame, to conclud wyth hir Ma^{te} in sic form and maneir as hes been usit hertofore at all tymis quhen hir ayid hes been implorit. Morower, this Estait hes never interit in delyng wyth Scotland sen hir Ma^{ty} Coronation, before thai perfavit ane honorabill partie upon the feildis, mentening ane innocent and just caus, as you may weill remember the experience tharof, quhen hir Ma^{te} send secours for recovering the toun of Leithe, the castellis of Hammiltoun and Edinburge. And of lait, quhen as hir Ma^{te} send hir army to the borderis, to haif joynit wyth the Scottis power for delyvery of the Erll Mortoun, becaus scho fand none to concur wyth hir at that tyme, scho was compellit. wyth sum schame, to dismiss hir army, quhiche giffis hir terror to commit the lyk error in tyme cumming. This I spek nocht that hir Ma^{te} wald ony way puls thame to interpryis; for of treuthe sche is so afrayit for the event of thingis, that sche dissuadis thame from ony attempting, lest thai suld incur dainger and wreck to thair selfs, and so being ruynit, sche agknewlegis that sche suld be so much the moir infirm vinting the strengthe of so faythfull freindis.

Item, Cudde Armorer is directet heir from the Kingis Ma^{te} and Arren, to hir Ma^{te} and my Lord Hundsdon, offering to hir that thai fall follow hir counsaile and advys befor all other princis, protesting that gif hir Ma^{te} will send ony indifferent nobill man to Scotland, he salbe so usit and honorit as apertenis; to quhom the practeis and conspiracis of his rebellious subiectis, now distrestit, fall so manifestly be openit, that his part and Arrenis fall appeir most honest and lawfull, and the intention of the distrestit subiectis most odious and detestabill. Adding therunto, that of lait, about the latter end of the last monethe, ane convention of rebellious wes assemblit at Sanct Jhonstoun; quhair of Gowry, Angus, Mar, Glammis, wer principallis, togidder wyth Glenkarn and Atholl; quhairin wes concludit to attempt sumthing aganis his Ma^{te}, alleging

that the fame wes revelit to his Grace be the said Atholl and Glenkarn. And in this legation, the said distreffit ar callit men of no force nor courage, and nocht seereit among thame selfe, inquiet spreittis, and fuche es every monethe hes ane new assignation to praētis, and yit laikis boyth power and valour to execut the fame; wyth ane number of lyk plaunf-ibill persuasions to alluir hir Ma^{te} to trust thame, and contryvit calumneis to mak the said distreffit odius and contemptabill. All theis objections I haif to anfuer wnto, quliche wer to me ane burthing inportabill, wer nocht the firm and constant good affection that I find in hir Ma^{te} and sum of hir nobilite; and tharfor the sooner ye heft your commissiōn hidder, the soner fall ye resais particular anfuer. For me, I am ashamit to ly heir agent, quhen es my good Lordis falbe in danger of thair lyvis; for as the Lord juge my faull, I desyre nocht to leif efter thame; and tharfor I pray yow solliceit thair LL. that how sone ane can be fend heir, that I may be licenfit to return to thame, to tak part of thair fortun. Yit let none in ony way be directed till the said Nobill men be first on the feildis; for to say the treuthe, this mutabilite in aponting every monethe ane new dyat, and sending advertifmentis so variabill, disgraicis our Nobill men werey muche, and impartis no small danger to the hoill caus. The resone is, that if advertifmentis had bein fend to England before the execution of Dave,¹ and the taking of the Quein at Falsyed, and of Arren at Ruffen,² I think none of theis good aētiōns had ever bein effectuāt. Bot yow know, efter all theis interpryfis wer execut, hir Ma^{te} ever comfortit the interpryferis therof in all lesum maneir, albeit sehe wes nocht meid privy to thair intentions. Cheifly efter the lait attemptat at Ruffen, it is in fresche remembrance how tymusly Sir George Cary and Mr Robert Bowes, hir Ma^{te}s Ambassadoris, arryvit to contenance the said caus. Bot now, quhen men dois no thing bot fittis down to advys, quhen it is hie tyme to draw fword and defend, and will ly still in the myr unfurring, expecting till sum freind passing by fall pull thame out, it apperis weill thair ether diffyed in the equitē of thair caus, or ellis thair ar bewichit and senses, and that thair can feill no thing till thair be led to the skemles,³ as wes the poor Erll of Mortoun. Gif materis wer resolutly ponderit, quhat moir consultation nedit, seing religion,

¹ David Riccio.² Ruthven.³ "Skemles," shambles.

the Kingis honour, and all good men in this extreme danger; bot first couragiully such as ar grevit to joyin togidder in secreit maneir for the Kingis delyverance, as wes done at Ruffen; or gif this can nocht be, then to convenin at sum convenient place opinly, publis proclamation to the pepill for declaracion of thair lawfull and just caus, and to perswade the present abuseris till ether thair wer apprehendit, or ellis reducit to sum extremite: quhiche form of doing vald compell thame to offer better conditions to the distreffit nor othervyis can be obtenit, the experience quhairof wes laity feyn at Falkirk; and gif thair be nether frenthe nor courage to perform nether the one no th'other of theis two forsaid, then quhat restis moir bot to preserve thair lyif the best way thair can till thair may recover greter frenthe and assistance, keping thame selfe as the auld Erll of Angus said, to be loos and levand. This I spek, nocht to puls the Nobill to commit thame selfe to danger (for thair preservation is my grettest cair); nether is it to be thocht that ony gret matter can be achyvit wythout danger; nether aucht danger be respectit quhair mennis honour, quiet of thair natyve cuntrie, thair King, and religion is in danger of perissing. And the moir dangerus thingis seem to be, the moir aucht men to imploir the helpe of thair omnipotent God, quho wythout all dout will ever mentain the just and innocent caus, as of His goodnes He hes ever done heirtofore, bot most chieffie quhen to the eis of the varld the same hes semit to be most desperat and infirm. Till I resair your ansuer, I fall use all good officis that may tend to the furtherance of this good caus. So, my loving Brother, God be wyth you. Be of good courage, for He that culd mak ane pathway in the Reid Sea, and preserve poor Mardochai from prood Haman, Jonas in the quhalis belly, Susanna from the fals witnes, yea, He quho in my fycht, wythin Scotland, hes done as gret mervellis for his afflicted pepill as ony of the former, hes He nocht yit sufficient frenthe to releif us, gif we fall, wyth wprycht conscience and innocent handis imploring His help, appeill to His mercy and protection?

To conclud, I pray the eternell and merciful God to grant us uprychtnes of mynd conformabill to the equite of our caus, and then fall be no dout of good success. From London, the xvi of Apryll 1584.

Indorsed, Copy of my last letter send to Scotland.

COLVILLE TO DAVISON.

YISTERNYCHT thair came advertifment from Mr Bowes that Gowry was 1584.
 takin be Colonell Stewart,¹ quhairby I wes in opinion that the rest of the [April 20.]
 number wes scatterit; and wes in fuche displeasour that I culd not writt
 to your Wor. Now this day thair is tuo pacquettis cum to the Secre-
 tary, the specialite quhair of he culd nocht communicat wyth me, be
 refone of this proceffion; bot in generall he hes fend me word that all
 is weill, suppose Gowry be takin. How sone I can know farder, ye fall
 be maid privy thairunto.

Yours wholly to be commandit,

Jo. COLVILLE.

To the rycht worschipfull Mr Willeam
 Daidfone, esquier.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

PLEIS your Honour, be the inclofit your Honour will perfaif my 1584.
 opinion concerning the affairis of Scotland. I most humlie thank your May 2.
 Honour of your cair for the distressit Nobill men, and I hoip in God one
 day it fall be to your honour and contentment. I fall delyuer her Ma^{te}
 mynd to the said Nobill men in as fauorabill manner as I can, and fall
 inform your L. trewly of thair meaning; for nixt hir Ma^{te}, your Honour
 is my only lord, quhom I will follow by all the varld. I pray God that
 I may anis do your Honour acceptabill service, to quhois proteccion I
 recomende your Honour, humly taking my leif. From London, the
 2 of Majj 1584.

Your Honouris wholly to be commandit,

I vald knaw gif Mr Daidfson fall go
 in Scotland or nocht.

Jo. COLVILLE.

¹ William Earl of Gowrye was seized at Dundee on the 16th, and brought prisoner to Holyroodhouse on the 18th of April. He was beheaded on the 3d of May, 1584.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

1584.
May 12.

PLEIS your Honour, the ix of this instant I cam to Widdrington, quhair I spak wyth the two Brethering,¹ quhom I find mervelus honest and constant, and fully resolvit never to refais condition from the King bot be sic moyen as hir Ma^{te} fall think most fett for hir honour and comfort of the Nobill men and distreffit. Thai ar at point to inter in fair and fast amitie wyth the said distreffit, bot thinkis it neccesar that the ending tharof haif the presence and contenance of one directit from hir Ma^{te} to that effect in quiet maneir. Nether think thai it resonabill to conclud in that or any other purpos, seim it never so lawfull, wythout hir Ma^{tes} privaty and allowance. The x of this instant I came to Bervik, quhair I fand the Nobill men thair in the self same opinioun concerning the two Brethering; for quhiche caus thai haif directit the Maister of Glamis and me to Widdrington, that we may persuad thaim to remane constant, and nocht to refais any offer from Scotland wythout thair knowledge, lyk es thai fall refais none bot be hir Ma^{tes} and thair good lykeng. The xi the Lordis removit towart Newcastle.

I haif bein wery inquifytyve to knaw the estait of thair caus and fuyrty. I can nocht find the same so desperat as men belevis. The occasion of this lait overthraw quhich thai haif sustenit, hes procedit from Gowry, quho (allace,) hes periffit in his cairles securite; for the said Gowry wes the traveller wyth all that promeit to joyin in the caus, becaus Mar and Glamis wes then in Irland, and Angus far northe in the cuntre. So Gowry being taken, it wes incertane to the rest quho had promeit to him; and for that caus fuche es he had dealt wyth all, being discouragit throughe his apprehension, absentit thair selfe. Yit nochtwythstanding of all this, the Nobill men heir affuris me, of thair honour and treuthe, that gif thai had only convenit thair awin frendis, thai had bein sufficient party to haif rencontrit the King and all his cunpany; bot thai thoelt it to muche, wythout concurrence of other

¹ Lord John and Lord Claud Hamilton, younger sons of the Duke of Chatelherault. Lord John afterwards succeeded to the title and estates, as Marquess of Hamilton. Lord Claud was the ancestor of the Earls of Abercorn.

nobill men, for thame allone to tak fo gret ane work in hand. To the effecte hir Ma^{te} may be the better informit of the estait of this caus, of the good apperence thairof, and moyen to preserve the fame, thai haif thocht good that the said Maister of Glamnis and I fuld be directit to Court.

Indeed, I muft confes that I se ane greter lycht be thair exile nor I culd ever se befor, quhiehe at our cuming salbe manifestit to your L. Let hir Ma^{te} be affurit, all the hoill number heir ar as far at hir devotion as I am, and ar nocht desparit, wyth Goddis grace, to find releif, howfoever matteris go, and tharfore thai ar nocht to be cast of. Gif I culd perfeif ony apperance of crafty deling in thaim, or ellis fuche infirmite as men thinkis, your Honour fuld assuritly know boyth the one and th'other, lyik as I haif dedicat my selfe to be wholly addicēt and devotit to hir Ma^{te} by all other levand. I humlie pray your Honour lett this be communicat wyth my speciall good Lord Lechifter, wyth my most homill commendation of service to his L. And so I humlie tak my leif. From Bervik, the xii of May 1584.

Your Honouris wholly to be commandit,

JO. COLVILLE.

Mr Levistoun, quho wes last employit, ys ane obstinat and ignorant Papist, pensioner to the Quein of Scotland, and principall fervitour to the young Duik.

THE EARLS OF ANGUS AND MAR AND THE MASTER OF
GLAMNIS TO WALSINGHAM.

PLEIS your Honour, according to hir Ma^{ties} defyir, expressit in your last letter, we haif directit our trusty and weilbelovit freind Mr Colvile to expone our caus in particular to hir Ma^{te}, quhom we haif specially defyrit to communicat wyth your Honour the hoill secret of our myndes to our most speciall and most assurit freind. Most hartly praying your

1584.
May 19.

Honour nocht to be afchamit to deill for us in loving maner, as ye haif done heirtofore, becaus we ar her Ma^{tie} affurit frendis, and distreffit for our affection born to hir estait; for gif we had bein as familiar wyth La Mot and Manivile as we wes wyth Mr Robert Bowes and Mr Davefone, we had nocht bein perfecutit this day. Bot we firmly beleif that we haif renderit our felf to ane gratius Princeffe, quho will nocht suffer to fe us finart, namly in ane caus quhairin hir Ma^{te} hes so gret intres, and tending so muche to the inquietnes of hir estait, gif the fanning fall haif hard fucces. Bot the particular declaration of this matter we refer to the sufficiency of this berar, quhom pleis your L. trust as our felf; and so, humly taking our leif, we pray God preserve your Honour in helthe of body and faull. From Newcastle, the xix of May 1584.

Your Honouris affurit and loving frendis to be commandit,

ANGUS. MAR.
THO^s M^r OF GLAMIS.

To the right honorabill Sir Francis
Walsingham knight, principall
Secretare of Englande.

INSTRUCTIONS GIFFIN TO MR COLVILE FROM THE DISTRESSED
LORDS, THE XXI OF MAY 1584, AT NEWCASTELL.

1584.
May 21.

LETT hir Ma^{te} be informit, that our present action is the self same quiche the Erllis of Murray and Mortoun, wyth the remanent of that societie, interpryfit about fevinteen yeris ago, for mentenance of trew Religioun, preservation of the King thair soveraine, and continuance of the Amitie betuix the two Crownes; and tharfor our caus aucht to be estemit in qualite as just, lawfull, and honest, as it wes at the beginning: And gif ony difference be, it is in the perfonis, alterit be tyme, and nocht in the caus. For the residue of the self same men that wes ledaris of our Soveranis Mother to perfequit religioun under pretence of civile caufes, to mary the murtherer of hir Husband, and to forgett the benefites

bestowit upon hir cuntre be hir Ma^{te} of England, ar now croppin in about the King, moving him to perfequit Religion in the self same sort, under pretext of civile causes; to revenge the wrathe of his Mother upon suche as delyverit him furthe of the handis of the murtherer of his Father; and to deill moir invartlye wyth other Nations nor wyth hir Ma^{te}, quho hes boyth establisht religioun wythin his cuntre, and preservit his lyif and crown.

We will nocht presume to be curious in hir Ma^{tie} affaris; bot wyth all deutifull humilite we desyir yow declare to hir Highness from us, that the hardnes of our fortoun and prosperite of our enemeis can import no tranquillite to hir Ma^{tie} estait.

That our caus is nocht so desperat es is belevit, and that thair wes never so mony malcontentit in Scotland at one tyme, nor moir redy to joyin togidder quhen occasion can be presentit, and that the hard succes procedit of the apprehension of the Erll of Gowry.

Efter hir Ma^{te} be persnadit that our caus is no new caus, bot the self same interpryfit about sevintein yeris ago be the Nobill men forsaid, and ane caus lawfull and honest, and such as hir Ma^{te} hes at fundry tymis assistit be hir forces and favour, and nocht prejudiciall to hir tranquillite, They humlie appeill hir Ma^{tie} assistance at this tyme, in sic form es is preseryvit unto yow, or ellis in sum other form moir agreabill to hir Ma^{tie} honour and comfort: And to perswad hir Ma^{te} tharunto, use the resonis following:—

That the cheif caus of our distres is for our unseinyeit affection to hir Ma^{tie} estait, quhiche we culd nocht bot prefer to all Foren estatis, be resone that bi hir Ma^{tie} assistance boyth religion wes plantit wythin our natyve cuntre, and our Soveranis lyif preservit; and tharfore, ever quhen oportunitie mycht serve, we intretit his Ma^{te} to deill moir lovingly wyth hir Hieness nor wyth any other Foren prince. Be quhiche doing we wer notit to be addicēt unto hir, and for that caus the moir hatit be the present abufaris of his Ma^{te}, quho ar conjurit and manifest enemeis to hir estait.

That gif we had bein es familiar wyth La Mote and Manivile as we wes wyth hir Ma^{tie} Embassadouris, Mr Robert Bowes and Mr Davesone, we had nocht bein distressit this day.

That the present abufaris of his Ma^{te} feikis to be maid gret be hir Math deftruccion, and our happines dependis only upon hir felicite, feing we haif no deling wyth any other Foren prince.

Gif be the perfuasions forfaid hir Ma^{te} can not be movit nether to ayid us in fuch form as we defyir, nor to lett us underftand delay to be profitabill to hir Ma^{te}, nor to us, then humlie requir, wyth hir Math favour and good lykking, *that we may haif libertie to seik our fertoun in sum other cuntre, es men destitut of all worldly comfort*, to repose our self upon the favour of our eternall God and equite of our caus.

2. So long es it fall pleis hir Ma^{te} we remene in England, *we humlie desyir to haif libertie to remane quhair we think our self most contentit and best eis*, the rether becaus it is reportit in fundry partis apontit for us, that we ar not refavit as frendis, bot as rebellus, and fuche es ar worthy to be confynit in certaine placis.
3. And for the *Lard of Carmichell*, we humlie desyir that lettres may be directed to the Lord Seroip, Sir Jhone Foster, and the remanent Wardanis, to the Knight of Walinton, and fuche otheris as fall be giffin in catologue, and according to our informatioun, that no injurie be offerit to him wythin thair Wardenreis, or be any of the forfaid perfonis and thair frendis.
4. That our meaning toward the Lordis of Hammiltoune be exponit.

Indorsed, Articles presentit to hir
Ma^{te} from the distressit, the xxvi of
Majj 1584.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

1584.
May 25.

PLEIS YOUR Honour. This Monnday I am arryvit wyth lettres from the Nobill men distressit, unto hir Ma^{te}, and an commandit be thame to use all possibill diligence. And tharfor I most earnestlie desyir your Honour that hir Ma^{te} may be acquentit wyth my cumming, that gif it pleis hir Hienefs, I may haif audience. The hoill substance of my commiffion consistis in theis few hedis:—That thair caus is the self same good caus interpryfit and begon about sevintein yeris ago be the Erllis

Murray, Mortoun, Mar, Glenkarn, Gowry, wyth the remanent of that societe. That be the good or bad succces of the said caus fall infew quietnes or inquietnes to hir Ma^{tie} estait. That thair wes never in Scotland this twenty yeris ane greter number joynit togidder in one caus, nether is thair ony caus of despair, provyding it may pleis hir Ma^{te} assit thame so far furthe es scho may in honour; and for persuading hir Ma^{te} to this effecte, thai haif furnesit me wyth fundry refonis, es also willit me declair thair opinioun how to remede the matter; quhiche, wyth the rest committit unto me, your Honour fall se to-morrow, lyik es I am commandit be thaim so to do, and to follow your Honouris advys in all thingis. So, awating upon your Honouris anfuier, I pray the Lord God preserve your Honour. From London, the xxv of May 1584.

Your Honouris wholly to be commandit,

To the rycht honorable Sir Francis
Wellinghame, knyght, hir Majesties
Principall Secretarie.

JO. COLVILLE.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

EFTER my departing from your Honour, I fand my self sumquhat evill at eis, quhiche hes maid me send Mr Hoodfone to your Honour. I haif skribbillit out ane melancolius letter to the desolat Nobill men, so neir the anfuier delyverit be your Honour unto me, es I culd remember; quhiche pleis your Honour peruse, and thairefter to send away, gif it be to your Honouris contentment; for thai will long muche to heir from me. The other lettres inclofit in my paquett ar partly to my Lord Angus, concerning that quhiche he hes ado wyth the Lord Hundfiden, partly concerning my awin particular effaris; quhiche all I vald humlie haif desyrit your Honour to haif perusit, gif ony matter of effect had bein conteinit thairin. This to meting most humlie taking my leif, I pray God preserve your Honour.

1584.
May 31.

Your Honouris wholly to be commandit,

JO. COLVILLE.

NOTES TO BE PRESENTIT TO MY SPECIALL GOOD LORD MY LORD HUNSDON, ANE OF HIR MAJESTIES MOST HONORABIL PRIVY COUNSALE, BE HIS HONORS HUMBILL ORATOUR, MR COLVILLE.¹

1584.
July 15.

FIRST, Concerning the approbation of the Raid of Ruthven, and declaratioun of his Majesties contentment and good lyiking of the aētouris thair of.

His Majestie confirmit the fame be Aēt of his Secreit Counsale, and be the Assēmbly of his Estatis; his Grace caufit the Ministeris declair his contentment wnto the pepill, for thair satisfactiōn, and proclamations wer publesit throuchout the hoill cuntre for that effect. To Sir Georg Cary also, his Majesties ambassador, both secretly and openly; his Majestie confirmit the fame to Mr Robert Bowes and Mr William Davesone; and Mr Colvile wes sent him allone to England, to certifie hir Hienes thair of. Lyik as Colonnell Stewart, joynit with the said Mr Colvile, wes at ane other tyme direct to the same end. And thocht theis wer sufficient argumentis of his Majesties contentment, yit the moir to werifie the matter, his Grace hes writtin fundry letters, all of his awin hand, confirming the fame, bayth befor and efter the lait alteratioun at Sanct Andrus.

And for the pretendit allegiance of captivite. It may be anfuert, that his Majestie wes nocht so captivye bot that he mycht ether haif spokin or writtin with the said Sir Georg Cary, ambassador, with Mr William Davesoun, or Colonnell Stewart, at his awin plefor, gif ony miscontentment had bein in his hart. And quhair thair alleig that the Aētis of Secreit Counsale, and of the Estatis, approving the interprys forsaid, is bot conditionall, the anfuert is, That gif thair be ony condition expressit in the said Aētis, all fall be confessit trew that is objectit agans the distressit.

¹ From the scroll copy in Colville's autograph, among the Wodrow MSS., indorsed, "Copy of my Notes, gifin to my Lord Hondson, the xv of Julij, 1584, quhen he passit to intreit with Arran in the Scottis matteris." Sir James Melville has given an account of this interview between the Earl of Arran and the Earl of Hunsdon, which took place on the Borders.—Memoirs, edit. 1735, p. 315; Bannatyne Club edit. 1827, p. 329.

Secondly, Concerning Colonell Stewart legation and myne.

The said Colonell at his cumming to England semit weill content, bot efter he had infittit eirniffly for that heritage quhiche apertenit to his Majesties grand-father, becaus sic anfuer wes nocht giffin as plefit him, (albeit the said anfuer wes moir nor in refone we culd haif wisefbit,) he changit purpos; affirming, be the way, in our return, mony absurditeis, contrarius to the advancement of religion, his Majesties honor, and amite betuix the tuo Crownes, as in a speciall Colleccion I haif notit;¹ quhairunto, becaus I opponit myself, alleging him to be ane inprofitabill fervand to his Majestie, our Maister, and wnfaithfull to the Estait of England, and to all the Nobill men that had best servit his Majestie in his youth, he confautt wrath agans me, and finally did fo muche at his Majesties handis, that, without ony tryall, I wes committit to vard, and fo unjustly vfit as never wes ony subject in Scotland; and eftervart, be degres the hoill Nobill men, that ar this day distreffit, wer perfequitit in fuche fort as now to the varld is manifest.

Last, Gif thair meaning be vpricht, your Honor will perfaif be this tryall.

Thai fay in generall thai will deill moir invartly with hir Majestie nor with ony other Foren prince, and follow hir advys in governing thair estait.

Gif so be, lett thame declair quhat deling his Majestie hes with his Mother, quho ar the instrumentis, as weill in England as Scotland, that makkis intelligence betuix thame, and quhat privy moyen haif thai for convoying of thair letters to and fro. Lett the letters quhiche passit betuix his Majestie and his Mother be producit. Of all theis thingis I know your Honour is resonabill weill informit, without thair knowleg; gif thai diffimill with your Lordship in ony of thir pointis, then thair lait promifes wilbe no furer nor the former.

¹ This evidently refers to a very curious document, entitled "Notes, proving that the Duke of Lennox and Arran, of old, Arran and Colonell Stewart and their complices, of new, ranne, and runne such courses, as earie with them, beside their own promotion, 1. The Wracke, of True Religion; 2. of the Kingis Majesties Soule, Bodie, Fame, and Crowne; 3. of the Commoun Wealth of Scotland; 4. and Amitie betuix both the Realmes." It is printed in the Wodrow Society edition of Calderwood's History, vol. iv. pages 393-448; and is too long to be here reprinted.

Nixt, lett thame be vrgit to declair quhat privy deling thai haif with France? quhat dois the Lord Setounis long abode thair signifie, and his frequent conferancis with the Bifchopis of Glesgo and Rofs, with the Spans Ambaffador, Popis Nuntios, and Scottis Jefuitis? quhairfor wes Sir John Seton his fone fent into Spain, and ane othir alredy agane direit thidder, or ellis to go verey fhortly?

And, in governing of thair eftait gif thai will follow hir Majesties advys, then quhat is the cans moving his Majestie to promot and favor all thois that ar recommendit be his Mother, or ony foren Prince faving hir Majestie, howfoever thai haif behavit or behavis thame felse in religion, or othervyis? and that thai quho ar recommendeit be hir Majestie can find no kynd of fauor, bot extrem persequotion be dethe, imprifonment, or banifinment?

And gif it may pleis your good Lordship, heir my foolifche opinion. Surly I can nocht think that thai quho hes violat in tyme past promiffis, handvrittis, and infrumentis meid in the vord of a Prince, ar fo far chargit as to keip better in tyme cumming nor thai haif done heirtofor; and fupposing for a quhile thai fuld keip promis, thair is no question the fame is moir for perticular commodite to thair felf nor for ony fauor thai haif to the eftait of England, and rather to prolong tyme till thai may be strengthenit to work funn greter mifeheif aganis your freindis in Scotland; yea, and perhappis aganis your awin eftait, nor for ony other good caus. I reid that fraudfull Hannibal maid fareft offeris to the Romanis, quhen as he wes makand greteft preparation aganis thame; and the vyis Grekis outvardly pretendit left hostile aganis the Trojans, quhen the fatal hors wes in preparation; and the tratorus Sinon gaif finoothest wordis to the said Troians quhen he wes even at point to vork their ruin, quhiche the said Troians had efcapit gif thai had nocht trustit the said Sinon. My Lord, I culd nominat to your Honor four or fyve deceitfull Sinons, werey neir his Majestie, quho ar as gret enemies to the eftait of England (quhiche I pray God to blis) as Sinon wes to Troy; quhiche I dar, be Godis grace, affirm agans ony of thame, ether be refone, or ony other vay that gentill men fuld deill with otheris; thairfor I pray God thai be not trustit, quhiche beand, thair is no thoelit or fourty to be had of thame.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

I KNOW your Honour is fully informit of the estait of Scottis matters be Mr Wenet, the Ambaffadoris fervant, so that I neid nocht writt any thing thairof. I haife travellit for a fereit meting betuix the tuo parteis heir, quhairunto thai ar boyth weill inelynit. Bot fering ther thai can nocht meit so secreitly bot that the fame falbe revelit to thair enemeis in Scotland, thai haife abstenit thairfra for the present; and the refone is, becaufe thair is fundry querrellis ryfing daylie among thair laid enemeis in Court, quhiche thai compone and knittis up among thair self, ther thai may be the better preparit to resist their Nobill men, quhom thai think to be already reconciliat togedder. Tharfor it is thocht best heir that the matter fuld rest for a quhyill, and that it fuld be giffing out that no apontment can be maid among thaim, quhairby thai heir the courteurs falbe the more incuragit to profequent thair particulars one aganis aneithir. In the mein tyme thai content thair self wyth the favorabill spechis that I haif careit betuix thame, tending to this effect, That thai, persaving the cause of religion, thair king and common weill in danger, and the amite betuix the two realmes lycke to decrese; tharfor thai ar contentit mutuallly to remit all particular offensis in blood or geir past among thaim, and hartfully to joyin togidder in fuche form as hir Majestie to apoint for remedeing of the thingis forsaid. Quhat is Mr Davefonis opinion of our Scottis estaris, and quhat he thinkes lykly to infew, pleis your Honour lett me know. I heir from France that one Balladyne,¹ a Scottis man, bot a citizen of Paris, hes laity bein in Scotland, and hes spekin wyth his Majestie, and returning wyth gret diligence agane to Paris, efter conferance wyth Glethow² and our Quenis counfeler thair, he is ridden post to Rome. How far the Scottis estait hes promittit to the King's Mother, to France and Spain, and quhat presumpcions is that thai haife familiar deling wyth the Poip, dayly moir and moir apperis; and now thai ar nocht aschamit to offer largely to this estait. How all this can stand, and none of the parteis defavit, I can

1584.
July 31.

¹ Probably James Bassantyne, long settled at Paris.

² James Betoun, Archbishop of Glasgow.

nocht bot mervell. It is certane thair is fun notabill practis in vorking aganis religion, quhairunto, wythout all dout, boyth Frenche, Spanisb, Roman, and Scottis estatis ar meid privy, otherwyfe quhat fuld neid fo gret bufines of our Scottis Ambassador to foren partis. I pray the eternall God preserve hir Majestie, for gife hir Hienes continies in good estait, thair can no gret calamite fall vpon the Christian religion. It may please your Honour to communicate theise wyth my Lord Lechifter. And so for the present, wishing to hir Majestie endles felicitye, to his L., your Honour, and the hoill estait increfs of Goddes blessing, I humlie tak my leif. From Newcastle, the last of Julij, 1584.

Your Honors wholly to be commanded,

JO. COLVILLE.

The Nobill men heir hes thair humile
dewte recommendit to your Honor.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

1584. PLEASE YOUR HONOUR. According to her Majesties direction, Mr
Oct. 29. Anderson hath travayled for this reconciliacion betwixt the Noblemen,
and hath found such conformity in them that are here at Newcastle, as
also with the Lord Jo. Hamilton, as he would wishe, as by their answeres
herein inclosed your Honour will perceave. The Lord Claud Hamilton
seemes to be alienated by evill counsell, and either hath promised to the
Queene of Scotland or to the King furder nor becometh him, beeing fo
much obliged to her Majestie as he is. He hath not agreed to this
reconciliation, but some times faves, he will come to her Majestie and
geve his owne answer. We thinck we have sufficient that have the
elder brother, and hope, with God's grace, with small help of her Majes-
tie, vpon that small ground to make our Queenes trimmill. As the
Lord Hamilton would be encouragit for his prompt obedience, fo the
other, his brotler, would not be vnreprehended, otherwise the good false
discouraged, and the obstinate men confirmed in [by] his obstinacy. It
were a great pleafure to the Lord Hamilton yf your L. would write to

his brother, that in respect of the said Lord Hamilton's obedience to all lawfull things proponit by her Majestie, and his inconformitie, albeit he was before more obliged nor the said Lord; that therefore her Majestie will doe nothing concerning him but according to his elder brother's devise as chiefe and principall, and one moste thanckfull and reasonabale. I assure your Honour this lettre would be very necessary for this present time. We are here dayly fought, through the miscontentment that growes at home; and if your Borders had beene open to vs this tyme past, I am assured the matter had beene ended ere nowe. The Lord forgeue them that without cause oppone themselves against vs. Surely it will proove at length to be inprofitable for this estait, as vnto vs all thinges in Scotland dependes vppon this Ambassadour, who, if he were as faithfull to the Queene's Majestie as to the Queene of Scotland, he were the fitter minister. It is thought here he shall obteyne fundry thinges to our prejudice, as a countermand to our going to Holie Iland, and dispatch out of her Majesties dominions, for so speakes all our vnfrends; but I am not moved with such reportes. The Noble men have their very humble dutie presented to your good L., thanking God of the comfort they finde in your Honour. And so for the present I humbly take my leave. From Newcastle, &c.

What practise is devised against me, your Honour will see by the Lord Seroope's letter, directed to me for that effect.

TO MR COLVILLE, FROM SIR FRANCIS WALSYNGHAM.

SIR,

This delay made by the Lord Claude I hold best to keepe secret, for that perhaps it may in some forte prejudice those that doe deale bothe honourably and sincerely, vppon some doubt that may be conceived that the like alteration may happen in others that hath fallen out in this Noble man. For you knowe howe apt men are (carried with their particular passions) to enter into a generall condemnacion; and therefore I wish greatly that this breach might be made vpp; for which purpose I have genen the Lord Claude the best advice I can to take some other way of counsell, as you may perceave by the inclosed copie.

1584.
Nov. 4.

It is long since that I have had some cause to doubt of the soundness of the gent., neither am I in great hope (whatsoever he subscribe) that he will sincerely preserve the same, being (as I have cause to doubt) a devoted servant to the Scottish Queene, and therefore he is warily to be dealt with; for that it is to be doubted that he hath beene a principall discoverer of such things as have come to his knowledge touching the purposes of the well affected in Scotland for the reformation of that state. Notwithstanding, to have him disunited from the rest would breed an opinion of some weakness in the cause, when such a person shall by practise be wonne to shrink away. And it is likely, yf he were quite shaken of, that he might the easier thereby winne favour at home, whose fortune being restored, the whole surname perhaps may be drawn to followe, and to forsake the chief of the house; for that experience sheweth that men generally are rather inclined to followe such as are in prosperity then to leane unto a fortune that is abated. I pray you, therefore, look substantially into the matter, and lett me understand, with as convenient speed as you may, what course you thinck meete to be taken in the cause, and in the meane tyme I will bury all vnder silence. Though the Master of Gray laboureth what he may to make her Majesty to conceive hardly of the distressed Noble men, yet they may assure themselves that she will not be easily carried away, by such a young fellowe, from those whose good affection towards her she hath made so good proove by sundry effectes.

JAMES COLVILLE OF EASTER WEEMES TO SIR FRANCIS
WALSINGHAM.

1584.
Nov. ?

. . . THIS vther letter send to my cussing Mester Jhone Coluill, and this vther to Mester Archibald Douglas. Gif they can nocht be veil convoyit and in suirtie, I pray your L. self to keip thame veil, albeit ther be na mater of consequence, for they may do me hurt.

JAMES COLUILL OF
ESTWEMES.

THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE BANISHED LORDS TO THEIR FAMILIAR
FRIEND AND SERVITOUR, MR JOHNHE COLVILL, TO BE DELIVERED
TO HER MAJESTIE OF ENGLAND; DATED 20TH OF AUGUST 1584.¹

OUR letter and salutatioun, with remembrance of our most humble
duetie, being presented to her Highnesse, yee have two generall Heads
wherin to deale with her Majestie. The one concerning our Greeves;
the other concerning suche Petitions as are to be required of her High-
nesse.

1584.
Aug. 20.

In this sort yee shall open up our Greeves to her Majestie: That
wheras her Majestie, by her last letter sent unto us, and credit committed
unto you, acknowledged our caus to be honest, just, and lawfull, and the
self-same caus which was interpreted about 17 yeeres agoe, for mainten-
ance of true religion, preservatioun of the King our soverane, and con-
tinuing of the amitie betuixt the two Crowns, and the self-same caus
which her Majestie had alwayes assisted, at all times before, when as the
same was in danger, as having a conjunct interest therintill: and
wheras our humble Petitioun was, at your last employment toward her
Majestie, that it might please her Highnesse then (as she had done of
before) to assist us with some reasonable forces, for recovering and
upholding of the said caus; her Majestie's answer was, albeit she would
never leave us nor our cause destituted and comfortlesse, yitt her High-
nesse could not at that time succour us in such sort as we desired, for
findrie reasons conteined in her Answer given at the time foresaid. But
her Majestie, of her accustomed bountie, promised then this farre unto
us, that, for so much as the King, our soveran, offered unto her verie
largelic, so being the Lord Hounsdon, or ellis some other of her counsell
whom he could like of, were sent to deale with him; therefore, her
Majestie then desired us to have a little patience, untill the time that
she had tried what effect might follow upon the large offers foresaid;
thinking that a way more honorable and certane to purchase our sove-
ran's benevolence to us in that sort, than by any other moyen: and for

These Instructions, and the Letter to Queen Elizabeth, should have preceded the
Letters supra, pages 62-64.

that caus her Majestie then concluded, that both Mr William Davidfone fould be employed to Scotland, to worke all good offices that might tend to that purpose; as also, the said Lord Hounsdien fould be directed to travell to the same effect. And so, whill as her Majestie, without all questioun, formerlie beleevd that, by the dealing forsaid, some benefite fould have redounded unto us, at least, that nothing fould have succeded to make us and our caus in worfe condition nor it was before; and on the other part, whill we were weill satisfied with her Majestie's gracious answere, hoping for some releefe by the said mediation; we perceaved at lenth all things to succed contrariousslie, and farre against her Majestie's good meaning, and our expectatioun, which we impute onlie to the craft and subtiltie of our enemeis, who have effectuāt, by this delay, that which by no other way they could have performed. For by this unhappie protracting of time, and unfaithfull dealing on their part that are our enemeis,

First, Our freinds in Scotland are discouraged, and likelie to fall from us; and in effect, although not in expresse words, we are restrained to make them anie intelligence, for comforting and animating them.

Secundlie, The Castell of Edinburgh, which was the onlie part of hope which remained, upon a frivolous and most false alledgance of a practife, is taikin out of his hands that was both our assured freind, and verie weill affected to her Majestie.

Thridlie, Upon the self-same contrived alledgance, our forfaitours are to passe forward at the day appointed, without helpe of prorogatioun.

And, last of all, Our selves are so calumniated and slandered with maters wherof we are most innocent, that there resteth now no more of all that our enemeis could have wished for our destruētioun, except onlie deliverance of us in their hands. And, for that which is alledged of a praicise to have beene attempted against his Majestie's person and nobilitie, yee know how farre we ought to be free of anie fuche suspicioun, and, therefore, we referre that to your owne declaratioun.

You have to regrait that forme of dealing, that, upon the naiked alledgance and affirmatioun of our enemeis, without prooffe or triell of the famine, they fould be suffered to worke all the rigour they can against us, and no travell taikin to perswade and move his Majestie, at least, to

continue the execution of the sentence against us, till the matter were tried to be so indeed as they alledge.

Concerning the other point, containing our Petitions to her Majesty, they are:—

First, Humble request her Majesty, that with all convenient speed, letters may be directed to the Lord Hounsdon and Mr William Davidfone, but speciallie to Mr Davidfone, to seeke the prorogation of the Parliament; or, if the famine cannot be stayed, that at least nothing passe therein prejudiciall to our cause in generall, or to our hurt in particular.

Secundlie, Declare to her Majesty, that for so much as we are forie to be a continuall burthen to her Hiennesse, therefore we humbly request her Majesty, that, by her procurement, our owne livings may be granted unto us.

Thridlie, Forso much as, since this last dealing began, in effect, (although not in expresse words,) we have bene refrained from intelligence with our comfortable and discouraged freinds, that therefore it may please her Majesty to permit us, as occasion may serve, by our letters and messages, to animate and comfort them, that they may be the more willing, if ever God send convenient opportunity, to joyne with us in her Majesty's service.

Furdlie, Make motion for a warrant to us to remaine at Holie Island; and if yee be asked of our mindes concerning Arran, yee have to say, that we can nather with honestie nor upright conscience, have to doe with such a one, howsoever he flourish.

ANGUS. MARR. MASTER OF GLAMES.

THE LETTER PRESENTED TO HER MAJESTIE.

As the whole Church within Europ hath had comfort of your Majesty, so it becometh the same Church, and everie member of the same, to be carefull of your Majesty's weelfare and prosperitie, and these in speciall who most felt the benefite of your Grace's government. Therefore, for

1584.
Aug. 20.

our parts, we, as partakers of the benefites with manie others, have thought good, feing your Grace in danger, to advertise your Grace of the fame; to the end that your Majestie, hearing the danger confirmed by manie others, which yourself suspeçteth, yea, and perceaveth, may, with the greater assurance and consideratioun, prevent the fame, as a thing more certane than that, upon anie light suspicioun, or *panicus timor*, as they call it, they have begunne to mislyke. And for certane and sure grounds in this cace, that have bene knowne, (feing to your Majestie we mind not to insift;) as, First, That all that professe Poprie are your commoun enemeis: 2. That Spaine and France are old enemeis, als weill to your Majestie in speciall, as to the whole realme in generall: 3. That they, with the counsell of the Pope, have had manie interprises to cutt yow off, and overthrow your estat. These, we say, and the like, we will passe over, as things more notour than that they need to be flood upon at this tyme. But we will intreat upon the evident danger that most certainlie is intended unto you, frome the Court and present state of Scotland. Which, albeit we thinke it be reasonable espied, and long since found out by your Majestie, yitt, becaus familiar dealing with them may engender some lyking, and banish distrust by little and little; (and hard it is to tuche pick, and not be defyled thereby;) and that becaus, howbeit yee have wisdom, and wise counsellors able to encounter with advantage; yitt, true dealing may be rifled by deepe dissimulatioun and plaine falshood, and a lawfull, simple, and honest dealing may be overshot with witchcraft, wherewith that Court is now governed, we thought good to helpe that in us lyeth, that at least, in our default, no harme come to your Grace; which our good will we doubt not but your Grace will take in good worth, feing it is the quietnesse of the Church of God, and your Grace's preservatioun, that we seeke. Amen.

1. And first, Seing that Court hath joynd now plainlie, as before, you and your counsell did see that mysterie in working, both with the enemeis of religioun, (Papists I meane,) and with the mortall enemeis of your person and realme, as also, with the devisers of the conspiraceis intended often times against your Grace, yee can not bot have most just caus to abhorre their freindship and familiaritie.

2. Secundlie, The contemptuous and despitefull disdaining and

railings againſt your perſon and ſtate, ſindrie times, as enemies to them.

3. The foule ſcoffing of your Grace, in not keeping anie promiſe made to your Majeſtie's ambaſſaders in your name, the falſeifing of plaine hand-writt; as of the reſpoſing of Arran in ſpeciall; and perfe- cuting of the noblemen for the Road of Ruthven, &c., which juſtlie may make you ſuſpect that they will be no truer than theſe have bene before.

4. In not obeying your Majeſtie's reaſonable requeiſts, at diverſe times making ſute for ſome noblemen tuiching their death, as Morton, &c.

5. The pretended title of the crowne, and the full purpoſe and intent to occupie the place of government by force.

6. Being privie to the late Conſpiracie to make your Majeſtie away.

Conjectures.

1. The familiaritie with Holt and diverſe others Engliſhmen, traf- fiquers, no doubt, to that end; as alſo, with his Mother by writt, who, no doubt, is guiltie therein.

2. The preſerving of Holt from triell, and ſhifting his examinatioun, and letting him out of the caſtell of Edinburgh.

3. The heavineſſe at the Court, when newes came of the reveeling the Conſpiracie.

4. The lyking of the Prince of Orange his murther, with muche rea- ſoning in defence therof, as alſo, of the maſſacre in Pariſe.

5. A certane ſtaying from proſecutioun of their purpoſes, and await- ing, as it were, about that tyme till they heard belike what ſould fall out.

6. The mainteaning of men about him that utterlie hate and miſlyke your Majeſtie, as Montroſe, Arran, the Colonell, Matlane, Melvill, Chal- mer, Down.

7. The miſlyking of the beſt affectioned men in England to your Majeſtie, except this counterfoote ſhew toward Hounſden.

8. The revolting from religion and the amitie moſt unthankfullie, more to be feared; for tame foxes, if they waxe wilde, are moſt perel- lous.

9. The delyting in shedding of the blood of the nobilitie of Scotland, that wer addicte'd to your Majestie. *Nullius semel ore receptus, pollutas patitur sanguis mansuescere fauces.* Yea, the hating and perfecting of all estats that love your Majestie within that realme.

10. The shooting at your Majestie's ambassader, and evill intreating of the rest of them. And these unnaturall and bloodie beafts *nunquam solent deponere iram donec ulciscantur.*

11. Laft and most dangerous of all, this suddane change from extreme hatred to an excesssive shew of lyking, and pretended traffiquing for continuing of peace; the accustomed practise of all their sort, when they minde gretest murthers, and are neereft to the point to performe them.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

1584.
Nov. 6.

PLEIS YOUR HONOUR. In my last of the xxviii of Octoher, I send to your Honour the form of appontment betuix theis Nobill men; quhiche letter, gif your Honour hes relayvit, pleis your Honour keip to my cumming, for fuche eaus as I can nocht commit to writting. Bot I feir that letter hes nocht cum to your L. handis. Gif so be, sum man hes done wrang, quhairof I fall moir fully at meting inform your Honour. I am direct in generall from the hoill Nobill men reconciliat, and thinkis to fe your L. about the xiiii of this instant, be Goddis grace. The reconciliatione wes the thred of this instant, quhiche day the Lord Claud¹ raid to the Bordoris, and is nocht yit returnit. He vald nocht obey hir Majestie's letter, bot thocht and thinkis to excus him self weill aneuche be fuche other moeyen as he hes fund out of new. Alway I am credibilly informit that he is alredy in Setonne; and gif so be, he hes done unfaithfully boyth to your L. and to his awin brother, yea, unto hir Majestie's self. I beir his deidly indignatione, because, as he fayis, I haif drawin his Brother to ane vnhappy course; and God knawis I haif mony crossis vpon me, becaus, wythout respect of personis, I studey to walk in that way that most may help the decayit religioun wythin my natyve cuntre, and may most tend to hir Majesties saistie and content-

¹ Lord Claud Hamilton.

ment; bot gif I content hir Hienes, I pans nocht vpoun other mennis displefour. Thair is no apperance that the Nobill men wilbe permittit to go to Holie Iland; wythout the quhiche libertie, or fuchlyk, we can do nothing for our releif. The Lord forgif thame that wythout caus opponis thame self to ws. I pray the eternell God preserve your Honour. From Newcastle, the vi of November 1584.

Your Honour fervand,

[Jo.] COLVILLE.

Pleis your Honour, refais the Lord Scroippis lettre.

To the rycht honorabill my speciall
good lord Sir Francis Walfyng-
hame, Knycht, hir Majestie's Prin-
cipall Secretary.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

PLEIS YOUR HONOUR, Forfomuche as I know the enemies of our caus will feik to excus this inhonest revolt of the Lord Claud, be imputing the falt tharof ether to his elder Brother, for giffin him hard spechis, or ellis to Mr Anderfonis indifcretioun or myne; yea, I know fun will generally condem ws all for the particular offens committit be one. For this caus your Honour will take in good part that I declair the hoill matter, as it is indeid, to the effect hir Majestie being rychtly informit, may juge thairupon; according to the sinceir meaning of theis confortees Nobill men, quho is so traducit that no werk can proceed from thaim, be it never so wprycht, quhiche escapis the sclanderous reportis of evill disposit perfonis. Efter Mr Anderfone and I had put the Nobill men heir at Newcastle to point, be subferyving suche thingis as wes requirit of thame, then we went to Widdrinoone, quhair th'elder Brother, at the first motioun, said theis wordis: "I haif renuncit the favour of all Foren princes, (yea, of the Quein of Scotland, my auld Mestres,) and hes fimpilly renderit my selfe to hir Majestie of England, thinking be hir meanes to possess my Soveranis favour, and be no other way; and thair-

1584.
Nov. 8.

fore, since it is hir Highnes plesour that this reconciliation go forward, wythout forder reſoning I agre tharunto, as I will to any other thing quhairwyth it fall pleis hir Highnes burthing me." Th'other Brother thoct this anſwer ower fuddane, and deſyrit ane tyme for thre dayis to advys; quhiche wes grantit; and as he ſaid to ws he vald only ſeik the Maifter of Glammis opinioun; quho cumming wnto him and convicting him with reſone, maid him onis or tuyis to conſent. Bot how fone againe he ſpak wyth others he diſſentit; ſo that the Maifter, finding ſuche mutabilite in him, left him, and thoct it fruitles to deil wyth ſo inconſtant ane man. And quhileſt he ſemit only to conſult wyth the Maifter, yit ſecretly he delt wyth ſuche freindis as he had in this cuntre, (quhiche I pray God may be condingly tryit;) and that ſame werey nycht in quhiche he reſavit hir Majeſties letter he ſend one to Setoun, wyth the copy therof, to be ſclawin to the King, letting him vnderſtand how vnwilling he wes to accord wyth his Majeſties enemeis. Quhairvpon the King ſendit one William Setoune to him, quho delyverit him ane proteccioun, be wertew quhairof he hes gono in to Scotland, and wes in Scottis ground befor ony meting wes among the Nobill men heir, althought he writ to Mr Anderſone to be at his hous in Newcaſtell the ſame nycht in quhiche he interit in Scotland. The cauſ, alſo, quhairfor we haſtit this meting, wes vpon advertiſment that came from Mr Cunyghame, quho aſſurit ws that Claud never ceſſit ſeiking to alter his Brother's good mynd, and that he inſiſtit alſo wyth him to perſuad his maifter to that effect; and had manaffit one Pollard,¹ miniſter to his brother, becaus in his fermoudis he inſiſtit to perſuad all profeſſoris of trew religion to mutuall amite among thair ſelvis, nochtwythſtanding ony greiſis paſt; affirming that all faythfull men in Europe aucht to reverence and to follow hir Majeſtie of England moir nor any other Prince wythin the ſame. Other cauſes he allegit aganis the ſaid Miniſter, bot of this procedit his rage; ſo the ſaid Cunyghame deſyrit ws wyth all ſpeid to heſt the matter, othervyes impedimentis mycht fall out unlookit-for; quhairvpon we tuik ocaſion to diſpeche the matter the ſoner. This is the treuth of the matter, quhairvpon pleis your Honour conſidder, as apertenethe; fundry things perteng heirinto, at meteing I fall ſclaw to your Honour, quhiche I dar

¹ Mr Andrew Polwarth, Miniſter of Paisley.

nocht commit to writt. The Lady Claud¹ is now taking hir leif from hir freindis, and fayis sche is affurit aneuche of hir Majesties favour, and hes hoip to be payit of her husbandis penson befor she go out of the cuntre. Of hir husbandis acquentance in this cuntre, his deling and behavior, none can so weill tell as she; and I pray God, for hir Majesties awin securite, the matter be nocht oerlookit. The rest of the evill disposit are gone wyth him, cheiffie one callit Dave of Bothwell hauche,² quho helpit to kill the King's Grandfather the Erl of Lenox,³ like as his other brother killit the good Erl of Murray.⁴ Gif it fall pleis hir Majestie schaw bot a lytill favour to theis Nobill men, thair is no moir to be thoct of the Lord Claud nor of the meanest of the surname, as your Honour fall vnderstand at meting. Becaus the Lord Hammiltoune is left vnprovydit, and in gret dett, he is compellit to cum to Newcastle, and to tary wyth me till he heir from your Honour. Of treuth things are all ryip in Scotland, gif we had liberty to ly at Holie Island, and to travell wyth our freindis; bot we ar so restreynit, that our freindis hes fend our [over] to ws, and demandis gif we be imprifonit. The Lord inspyir hir Majestie to think of ws according to our faythfulnes, and the Lord disclos the hollow hartis of our enemies, quho hatis ws for no thing so muche as for that we ar hir faythfull servants. For the present I humlie tak my leif, and requyer your Honour to communicate theis wyth my speciall good lord my Lord Leycester. So the eternall God preserve the gratius Quain, your L., and the hoill estait. The viij of November 158[4].

Your Honouris servant,

[Jo.] COLVILLE.

¹ Margaret, daughter of George Lord Setoun, and wife of Lord Claud Hamilton.

² David Hamilton of Monkton-mains was a younger brother of Bothwelhaugh, whom he succeeded, and survived till 1619.

³ Matthew Earl of Lennox, the father of Darnley, had been elected Regent in July 1570. In the month of September the following year he was shot at Stirling, by Captain George Calder, and survived only a few hours.

⁴ James Earl of Murray, "the Good Regent," was shot on the streets of Linlithgow, by James Hamilton of Bothwelhaugh, in January 1569-70. The author of the "Historie of King James the Sext" has given a detailed account of the motives which actuated the assassin, whose life the Regent had spared, in 1567, when under sentence of death.

COLVILLE TO

1584. PLEIS YOUR GOOD L. Sence your arryvall to Holand, our caufe hes
 Dec. 31. bein and is wery foir distrefsit; for now the deling with Arren is grow-
 ing to fum rypnes, and is lyk to bring out fruit wery confortabill to
 our enemies, and to us wery dangerus. Since Grayis' cumming heir,
 your L. will nocht beleif how he hes bein interteneit, and quhat credeit
 he hes had. And in fin, he hes fo far prevalit, that this fame day I go
 northvart to the Lordis, to defyir thame remoif from Newcastell toward
 Cambrige or Oxford, becaus it is nocht thoct decent that thai fuld ly
 fo neir the King as thai be; and by this moyen we ar fo discountenaufit,
 and our enemeis fo glorius, that thai fwel in thair pryid, and we evanis
 away in difplefour, deftitut of all worldly comfort, faving of that quhiche
 we ar affurit to refaif of Him that will nocht abandone the widow and
 comfortles ftranger. Hir Majestie (the Lord blis her Highnes) remanis
 wery loving and gratius to ws; yit I can nocht tell quhat unhappy dif-
 afre is in the matter, bot ether one impediment or other fallis out,
 quhiche lettis ws nocht feill comfort as we expected; quhiche of treuthe
 can nocht be imputit to hir Highnes. The persecuting of the Ministry
 fill inereffis, and findry moir ar yit banifit, amang quhom is Mr Pont.
 Sum also ar imprifonit, fpetially one Dagles, minister at St Cudbert's
 churche,² befyid Edinburgh. He is also condemnit to dé, for praying in
 pulpett for his distrefsit brethring.

One David Home,³ quho of lait renderit the castell of Stirling, for
 refaving of ane letter from his nephoy out of England, is hangit. The
 Lord Claud Hammilton, persaving that his elder brother wald agre wyth
 the rest of the distrefsit, is gone in to Scotland, and remanis under the

¹ Patriek Master of Gray.

² Mr Nicoll Dalgleish, minister of St Cuthbert's or the West Kirk, Edinburgh. He was tried and sentenced for praying for his afflicted brethreu. "Then, (said the King,) if they be afflicted, I am the afflieter, and so am a persecuter."—Calderwood's History, vol. iv. p. 244.

³ David Hume of Argettie: he was condemned and executed on the 8th of December 1584; and his head was put upon the Netherbow port, "to the great wrath and out-cryng of the people."—Calderwood's History, vol. iv. p. 245.

Kingis peace wyth Hontley, his nephoy. Thair is in the whole of ws banifit men about two hundrethe, all gentill men, and I find findry of thame difposit to follow the warris thair; and my brother Willeam, I think, may haif of thame ane hundrethe, gif he wer affurit to be refavit and intertenit be the Estatis or Bifhop of Culen.¹ Quhairfore I humlie pray your good L. lett me underftand quhat is your opinion in this matter, and that it may ples your L. (gif this his intencion femis to your L. to ony good purpos) to mak fum motioun for him, lyik as I think Mr Secretareis honour hes in generall writtin to your L. to this fame effect. Suirly we ar fo far caft behind, that in anc maner I am deliberat myfelf to cum thair and feik fum better fortun; bot I will reft till I heir from your L. Also I pray your L. inquiry gif ye can try quhair the lard my elder brother is,² for I can heir no certenty of him. This muche in heft, efter prefenting my hvmill dewite to your L. I tak my leif, committing your L. to Goddis bleffed proteccion. From London, the laft of December 1584.

Your L^p wholly to be commandit wyth fervice,

JO. COLVILLE.

WALSINGHAM TO COLVILLE.

SIR, yours of the vth of this present, dated at Wetherby, I have receyved, together with a letter wrytten unto you from the dyftreffed LL^s remayning at Newcaftell. Sorry I am to fee them greeved as they are; but I hope, when they fhall underftande from you what coorfe hur Majestie thinkethe meet to be taken for the releefe of ther dyftreffed ftate, they wyll be therwith fomewhat comforted, thoughe not fo fully as I wyfhe and as they defyre, for that perhaps they howld a dowdttfull opynion that the coorfe that is now held by her Majestye wyll not woorke

1584-5.
Jan. 10.

¹ Or Cologne: This letter, indorsed "From Mr J. Colvile," has no address. It was evidently written to some person of note who was then abroad.

² It would appear that Colville at this time had not heard of his brother's death: see page 77.

that good, neyther for the publyke nor their partyclar, as is conceyved. On the other fyde, their LL^e are to confyder that her Majestie, feinge the harde successe that the late entrepryce at Starling was accompanyed with all, and dowbtfull that some lyke plotte may have lyke yssue, dothe thinke more good may be wrowght by waye of medyation then by any vyolent coorfe; whereof her Majestye dothe thinke it meete to take some tryall (not withowt verry great hope of verry good successe) before she have recoorfe to hard and dowtfull remedies. And therefore, good Mr Colvyll, traveyll what you may to perfwade the LL^e there to yeld to the allowance of her Majestyes coorfe, whereof yf ther shall not followe that frewte that is craved for, they may be assured her Majestye wyll never abandon them.

January 10, 1584. M. to Mr Colvile.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

1584-5.
Jan. 11.

PLEIS YOUR HONOUR. Becaus I had directed ane *paquett* befor me, quhairin I declarit to the Nobill men hir Majesties plefour concerning thair removing, and of the comfort fend wnto thame, I maid the moir heft, thinking that thai fuld haif bein, befor my cumming, upon the sight of my letteris, at sum point; bot quhen I came, finding my *paquett* (whiche wes fend away by your Honour) nocht cum to thair handis, bot ether abstractit or lost be the way, I proponit the matter to thame, quhairat thai *wer so amazed as wes incredibill*. Thai tuik thame that nycht to thair chalmeris, and the Erl of Mar can nocht yit be comfortit. The hoill number of gentillmen heir being in mervellus neecessite, hering that the Lordis fuld depart from thame, *came and lamentit thair hard estait*, sehawing how thai vald be cast in prifon for dett how sone the Lordis fuld remoif; and the poor Lordis had no other comfort to furnis wnto thame, bot wythe fighting and regretis to mak ane pitifull spectacle to the beholderis.

The Master of Gray, in his bravery, maid publiet spechis quhair he souppit at Newcastle, of siche thingis as I thoct had bein secreit, fay-

ing that I wes returnit with sex hundrethe pundis ; that the Lordis wer to remove to Oxford ; and that it lay in him to haif maid thame go to Lincolne, or farder gif he hed plefit. Theis speichis cumming to thair earis, augmentit thair dolour. For all this, I find no dispositioun in thame to refuse her Majesties request ; bot thai ar humlie to craif sum delay till ether *it may pleis hir Majestie consider mair liberally of thame*, orellis that thai may provyid money othervyis ; for gif thai fall remoif unfatiffend fuche creditoris as thair freindis and servandis ar addettit wnto, then fall all be imprefonit how fone thai depart. Befyid this, the Erl of Mar hes fend for his lady, and, I think, so hes the Master of Glamis ; and thai think it fall be no fmall difplefour to thair ladyis, gif thai remoif befor thai be maid aequent wyth thair meaning. Otheris moir urgent caufes femis to move thame, quhiche I defyir nocht to know, becaus I am sumquhat movit by thair laft letter fend unto me, quhiche I think your L. hes refavit or now. Thai travell muche to excus that matter, and to perfvade me nocht to tak the fame in evill part ; and indeid my hart is so fixit wnto thame, that no thing except dethe fall put ws afunder ; yit I haif kepit my self sumquhat clofer fince my arryvall from thame nor I can do heirefter, for I am fory to eik afflictioun to afflictioun. Concerning the estait of Scotland, no thing *bot continuall serchis and hunting of men, moir rigorus nor the Spanishe Inquisition*. The Lord Claud repentis him muche of his ingoing, bot his lady moir. Thai ar compellit to brek thair houfhold, and one of thair servandis is cum to me, affuring me that his lord curfis thame that devydit him from his brother. The Lord Setoun extremly feik. Arren moir credetit nor ever he wes, lett otheris brag as thai list. At the mariage of young Farnieherft,¹ the Kingis awin bed tuik fyir, quhiche meid gret frey among thame. I ame affurit your L. will nocht be glaid to heir of the departure of my brother,² quho, cumming home by advys of medicines to haif his naturall air, as he came in fight of his awin hous, upon the fey expyrit. The Nobill mennis letteris of the refait of sex hundrethe pundis, and allowance of the thre hundrethe fiftein pundis to the marchantis, fall be fend wyth thair awin paquett. Thai ar to fend one of

¹ Sir Thomas Ker of Fairnihirst.

² Robert Colville of Cleish, who died on the 1st of December 1584.

thair awin werey fhortlie, with thair anwser to hir Majestie, quhairof I thoct good to advertis your L. So, praying your L. commvnicat this wyth my Lord Lechifter, to qulois honour and to your L. prefenting my werey humill dewite, I humlie tak my leif, committing your L. to Goddis blessed proteccioun. From Newcastle, the xi of Januar 1584.

Your L. awin humill fervand,

[Jo.] COLVILLE.

To the rycht honorable Sir Francis
Walsinghame, knycht, hir Majesties
Principall Secretary.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

1584-5.
Jan. 20.

PLEIS YOUR HONOUR. Since my last of the xiii, I heir the King is to tak up ane moir violent cours aganis findry good men quho befor wes sparit, upon suspition takin that hir Majestie vald be offendit tharwyth. Bot now, since Gray hes affurit him that at his return heir (quhiche he giffis out falbe about the monethe of Maij) he fall haif all the distressit removed out of this land, and no refuge grantit to ony vantage the Kingis favour heirefter, thair intencion is to go planely to werk aganis all our freindis, specially aganis fuche as opponit thair self to the Quein Mother in his minorite. So, dissembill as thai list, none fall smart bot Quein Elizabethis freindis, and the Quein of Scotlandis favoraris falbe exaltit. Quhat spechis Gray past to ane gentill man of good credeit in his bypassing, Mr Anderfon can schaw your Honour, gif Mr Bowes hes nocht abedy declarit the fame to your Honour. Suirly thais ar fuche as I am astoneit to think tharon. I beleif your Honour hes hard of the dethe of Setoun;¹ and that the corps of the lait deceffit Abbot of Dunfermling fuld be, in the next Parliament, takin wp and forfaltit.² I feir

¹ George fifth Lord Setoun returned to Scotland from an embassy to France on the 11th of December 1584, and died on the 8th of January following.

² Robert Pitcairn, Commendator of Dunfermline, and Secretary. He died on the 18th October 1584; but the process of forfeiture seems to have been abandoned.

me Lyndfay alfo fall now fmart. The poor Lordis heir hes thair humill dewite recommendit to my Lord Lechifter and to your Honour. Thai haif bein at Widdreintoun, advyng wyth the Lord Hammiltoun upon thair remoif. Thai ar prepaireing as thai may for this remoif; bot allace, thai ar full of difplefour. As your Honour defyris me, I fall omitt no thing that lysis in my power to perfvad thame obey hir Majesties plefour. And fo for the present I humilie tak my leif, committing your Honour to Goddis bleffid proteftioun. From Newcaftell, the xx of Januar 1584.

Your Honouris humill fervand,

JO. COLVILLE.

To the rycht honorabill Sir Francis
Walfinghame, knight, hir Majesties
Principall Secretary.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

PLEIS YOUR HONOUR. Concerning theis Nobill mennis removing, I think your Lo. underftandis tharof by thair awin lettres and myne, fend the xiii of this instant, quharin thai haif layid certane impedimentis befor hir Majestie, quhiche will breid fum delay; bot I fe thai ar fully myndit to fulfill hir Majesties demand in that behalf. One of thair impedimentis your Honour had removit gif Mr Anderfone had bein present heir, quhois letter I haif returnit to your Honour, to the effect it may pleis your L. fend ane other in the fame form to Mr Midfoord, Maiour of this toun, ane wery discreit man, or ellis to fum other your L. freindis heir, quho falbe habill to furnis that fowm of thre hundrethe pundis. And quhair thai allegit that it wes neceffaire to haif the opinioun of thair freindis in Scotland befor thair remoif, tharin thai ar now alrede refolvit; fo that the forfaid fowm being furnefit, and one letter being writtin be your Honour to thame, to fuche effecte as this berar can inform your Honour of, thair remoif wilbe wythout farder delay; and for the difference of Norviche and Oxfurd, thai think fmall chois tharin. Other matteris I refer to the fufficiency of the berar, presenting my

1584-5.
Jan. 26.

moft humill dewite to my Lord Lechifter and to your L., committing your Honour to Goddis bleffed protecioun. From Newcaftell, the xxvi of Januar 1584.

Your L. wholly to be commandit with fervice,

Jo. COLVILLE.

My paquett I refavit upon the xiii of this infant.

To the rycht honorabill my fpecial
good lord Sir Francis Walfinghame,
knight, hir Majefties Principall
Secretary.

COLVILLE TO [SIR HENRY WIDDRINGTON?]

SIR,

1584-5.
Jan. 30.

SINCE fo is hir Majefties plefour, and that Mr Secretareis honour and your Wor. willis me fo to do, quhiche to me is fufficient command, I haif this far prevalit at theis Nobill mennis handis that thai will remoif indelaitly and incontinent efter the departure of your fervand vpon the next day. I think thai will directe me befor thane, to fignefie to hir Majeftie the certane day of thair remoif, quhiche onis thai thoecht fuld haif bein the firft of Februar; bot the caufes following vald noecht fuffer it, for that fame nycht that your fervand Raf came heir, we wes advertetif agane, by the party writtin in my laft letter, that his Cheif and he vald meit wyth Mar or Glamis, ony nycht thai plefit, at Widdrentoune, and thair thai fuld lett thame fe how esily matteris myecht be remedit, wyth finall hafard to thaim felfes, and no danger at all to the King. The Mafter and I hes foghtin ane gret fight to refrain the appetites of young men, quho ar naturally inclynit to long for thair natyve cuntre, as we ar all. We had alfo, fenee my laft, one out of Edinburgh, promifing that gif we vald bot onis cum in to Scotland, thai fuld mak thair cuming fuir to ws, wyth all our enemeis tharin; and other Barronis alfo, of the weft, ar drawin to Edinburgh, wating vpon

fun good purpos; quho lies alreidy refault largly from ws to that effect, bayth of gold and promis of landis. Now at this meting forsaide, fuld the day haif bein apontit, and thairefter, quhen all had bein concludit, I wes to haif bein fend wp to Mr Secretareis honour, to haif behavit my self, in opening or keping clos of the matter, as plefit his Honour to vse me. Now gif this remoif, cumming so intymouffly, may greif thame or nocht, your Wor. may juge. Alway we haif stayit that meting and all other interpryis, feing so is Mr Secretareis opinion and yours, quhairof be assured. And we haif fend to excus our self to the said personis in the sareft maneir we can; quhether gif it be takin in good part, that thai fall nocht from ws, I think thair is small tinfall. I am immediatly to follow your servand, wyth the certenty of the day of thair removing, quhiche I think at fardest wilbe, wythout all question, the x of Februar, and quhiche your Wor. may certifie Mr Secretareis honour of. And in the mein tyme no thing falbe interpryfit, quhatsoever be offerit, bot travell takin to cast of all interpryis fairly, quhiche will be muche to do in so short tyme, confiddering the distans of places and difficulte of travell in the land. I pray your Wor. think of me that I haif no opinion of my awin, bot suche as Mr Secretareis honour and your Wor. at hir Majestie's direction, injoins to me, howsoever things appeir to the contrar; and concerning theis Nobill men, gif I can nocht do all that I vald, yit I think no falt will be imputit to me; bot albeit the matter seim hevy to thame at the first, yit tyme and thair good natur all will move thame to mony things that can nocht be done at first. Thai ar in opinion that efter thai haif onis obeyit hir Majestie in removing, thai will seik liberty, wyth hir Majesties faour and support, to go to fun other cuntre. Quhidder thai fall be dissuadit or nocht from this, lett me knaw at meting, for your Wor. nedis not writ, becaus I mynd, wyth Goddes peace, to be neir as sone in London as this berare, wyth certenty of all things. The money is agane returnit, as your Wor. defyrit; and so, praying your Wor. tymly to communicat theis wyth Mr Secretareis honour, I humlie tak my leif. From Newcastle, the penult of Januar 1584.

Your awin servand,

JO. COLVILLE.

L

Theis things only to Mr Secretary, and that tymly, becaus I vald nocht writ at leinthe to his Honour, be refone of his feiknes, from quhiche I pray God delyver him.

It fall nocht be good that Mr Secretary writt to me till my awin cumming, quhiche I pray you, Sir, signifie to his Honour.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

1584-5.
Feb. 1.

PLEIS YOUR HONOUR, By my laft of the x of Januar your Honour knawis fo far as I haif lernit fince my hiddercumming; and according thairunto this berar is fente to defyir ane delay of thair removing, for certane caufes mentionat in thair letter fend to hir Majestie, quhairof I haif fend the dowbill to your Honour. Indeid, gif thair remoit befor thair freindis in Scotland knaw tharof, thair fall ether dyfcourage or tyre thame; and fuirly wythout some moir help of money thair can nocht remoit. Suirly the Ambaffadoris¹ fpechis in paffing by hes grevit thame muche, for his tabill talk wes no other thing bot, Becaus theis poor Nobill men wes giffin to prayer, he had purchafit thame licence to go to feool, wyth other childering. And this he fpak moft in houfes that ar nocht of thair religion. I pray God reveill his deceit befor he work noy to this Estait, as he hes done to ws. I heir that Mr Ar^d Dowglas fuld be maid agent for the King thair. The nephoy of Blak Ormstoune (quho wes actuall murtherer of the King's Father,² and apprehendit by Carmichell) is revardit wyth the benefit of pacification, and hes takin in hand to kill the faid Carmichell. Arren gydis all, and will nocht suffer ony favour to be sehawin to Claud Hammiltoune, except he will resign ower his titill to the Crown and Erldome of Arren, and tak the Erll of Marris leving; quhairat Huntley and Mortoune are muche grevit, and Setoune, for difplefor, is fallin wery feik. If hir Majestie writtis agane to theis Nobill men, it wer neccffar that the dowbill of hir letter wer

¹ This no doubt refers to Patrick Master of Gray.

² James Ormiston of Ormiston, who was executed for his share in the murder of Darnley. "Robert *alias* Hob Ormestoune, his faderis brother," was also one of the conspirators.—(Piteairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. p. 145.)

fend, to th'end the Maister and I mycht advys therupon befor it wer delyverit, and fuche direction giffin ws as we fuld follow. To this purpos, lett the paquett be directed to me.

Your Honouris humill fervand,

[Jo.] COLVILLE.

COLVILLE TO [LORD BURGHELEY?]

OF treuthe theis Nobill men hes werey larg promefes from thair freindis at home, gif thai will draw neir the Bordris, or at left ly still quhair thai ar. Falzeand tharof, thai certifie thame that the caus is perfytly owerthrawn. Notwythstanding, fuche is theis Nobill mennis repos vpon your Honour, that thai will follow your opinion, quhat inconvenientis foever appeir to the contrary, becaus thai find all the comfort thai refait to proced only from your L. So, gif it may pleis your L., fend ane letter to the Maiour of this toun, or ellis to sum other, for furneing of the money, togidder wyth ane other letter to thair LL^s, affuring thame that this matter of thair remoiif fall turn to thair comfort and benefit, quhatfoever be giffin out to the contrare. Thai fall then remoiif indelaitly; bot lett this proceed from your Honour to thame as wythout ony fuggeftion. Suirly thai ar alltogidder at your Honouris devotioun, to be vfit as yow list; and fory ar thai that your Honour fuld haif fuche burthing for thame, that can serve presently for so small purpos. I haif already movit thame to mak ane Roll of thair cumpny, quliche we haif devydit in thre, one part to remoiif wyth thame, to the number of twenty; the fecond part to be diftributit in the cuntre, amangis our weilwillaris; and the thrid part, till thai be othervyis provydit, moft be left heir in pensiou; and thair is already removit to the number of twenty perfonis. The Lord Hamiltoun is funquhat feik, and one of theis dayis thai ar to wefeit him. Concerning the estat of Scotland: Thair is a generall vifitation throuhout all Dioceis, to caus the Ministers subferyif to this new ourdur. Proclamations ar publefit to that effect,¹ and ane new interpre-

1584-5.
Feb. 5.

¹ "A Proclamation establishing Ecclesiastical Commissioners," dated 2d May 1584-5, printed in Calderwood's History, vol. iv. p. 339.

tation fett out, declaring the Kingis intentioun and meaning in his lait Actis,¹ maid contrare the liberty of the Church. Mr Johne Barten,² ane man that hes kept him selfe obfcure theis twenty yeris past for papiftry and necromanfy, is now placit vpon the Session, in the place of Mr Ro. Pont, minister. The Erl of Arren gydis all togidder wyth his lady quho is maid Lady Comtroller; and it is as fure as dethe, Gray had never credeit bot by the Quenis meanis, and most mentein it by the fame moyan. He promisit to my cufing Wemes³ to work his revocation; bot for all that, Wemes is fummonit to compeir becaus of his owercumming to Angus, and contrar the tenour of his licence, quhiche refrenit him tharfra. Sum fryif is fallin out betuix Gray and Cra[wford?] The eternal God preserve hir Majestie from thair diffimula[te] cruelty. The rest, pleis your Honour, heir of the berar.

Your Honouris humill fervaunt,

[Jo.] COLVILLE.

The Nobill men hes thaire humill
dewetie hartly recommendit to your
Honour.

COLVILLE TO [LORD BURGHELY?]

1584-5.
Feb. 9.

THE greteft causes that stayis theis Nobill men heftely to remoif is thair necessite, quhiche can nocht be releivit wyth so finall ane fowm. Nixt, thair frendis at home hes assurit thame, gif thai can ether get an hous neir the Bordoris, or liberty to remane quhair thai ar,⁴ thai fall onis

¹ It was published, under this title, "A Declaratioun of the Kings Maiesties Intentioun and Meaung toward the lait Actis of Parliament. Imprinted at Edinburgh, by Thomas Vautrollier. 1585." 4to. This tract is usually ascribed to Patrick Adamson.

² John Barten, Dean of Dunkeld, was appointed Commissary of that diocese in 1567. He appears to have been admitted a Lord of Session, by the King's letter dated 24th of November 1584, in the room of Robert Piteairn, Abbot of Dunfermline, who had died on the 18th of the previous month of October. The actual successor of Robert Pont, who had been deprived in the month of May preceding, was John Graham of Hallyards. —(Haig and Brunton's Senators, &c., pp. 140, 152, 197.)

³ Sir James Colville of Easter Weems.

⁴ At Holy Island, in Northumberland.

mend the matter, by Goddes grace, wythin thort space; and so theis Nobill men thinks it hard, having so good expectatioun, to remoif, and tharby to discourag thair freindis, and leif ane purpos so appeirant, to be vnaccomplisht. This is the gretest matter of all, and qulich I haif revelit wnto me vpon my oithe to communicat to none levand faving your Honour. Thai *mervellit nuche that hir Majestie* estemit so littill of thame as to assent to thair removing, befor thai wer acquent tharwyth. My answer wes, that I was commandit to advertis thame, and that my paquett quliche I fend to that effeete was ether takin or tint by the way; so thair wes no owerfycht in hir Majestie nor in me, bot in sun others, ether negligent or ellis evil myndit personis. As concerning the Master of Gray, he *send one befor him to haif spokin wyth Glamis*, quhos answer wes, *gif hir Majestie wes privy wnto that his desyir, he vald*, otherwis nocht; for him, he culd do no thing wythin hir cuntre wythout hir permission or forknawleg, for it suffit to haif one Claud Hammiltoun amang thame all. Thair is no dout, gif he culd draw theis home as Claud is, bot he vald do the same. In lyk maner *Arren hes send one heir quho wes ane wery familiar sercaud to Mar, quho, vnder pretext of exile, is cum, and wes to persuad Mar to tak privy composition for him self*; bot this man, finding him self deeypherit, is to return home. To spak the treuth to your L., I find, gif hir Majestie deill nocht moir liberally wyth theis Nobill men during thair necessite, thai *ar myndit, wyth hir Majesties favour, to seik thair fortune in sum other cuntre*, rether then to be compellit to consent to all thair enemeis devyfes, devylyt partly in Scotland, partly heir, for thair destruetion. For thai know that Arren, ane monethe [since,] *spak in Scotland, that he suld put thame to the schoolis in Oxford, till he hangit the best of thair freindis, seing he culd not gett thame selves*; and good Culde spak litill, as in London lang since. I humlie pray¹

COLVILLE TO DAVISON.

SIR,

Efter perusing of the inclosed, pleis yow return the same agane 1586. to me; and as good oportunitie may serve, I hoip your Wor. will remem- End of May.

¹ The conclusion of the letter is lost.

ber to spek hir Majestie and my Lord Thesaurer in fuche heidis as we conferrit upon at our last meting. So I humlie tak my leif, committing your Wor. to Goddis blessed proteccion. From Westminster, this Satterday.

Your Wor. wholly to be commandit,

JO. COLVILLE.

To the rycht worchshipfull Mr Willeam
Davestone Esquyer, lait Embassador for
hir Majestie in the Low Countreis.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

1586.
July 1.

PLEIS YOUR HONOUR, Bot that I knew your Honour hathe bein from tyme to tyme sufficiently informed by your Embassador, I had writtin oftiner. I wes glaid to haif this occasion of my Brotheris¹ upcumming wythout suspition, that be him your Honour mycht knaw findry thingis I durst nocht committ to paper. Him, pleis your Honour, trust as myself. I find no caus to alter my opinion, for men heir ar werey constant in inconstantnes and dissimulation, whiche yit wilbe cleirer, if the profi past suffices nocht. The Lord Hammilton, being in gret cair after the dethe of his sone, willit me writt this to your Honour, that he fall be, sa lang as he levis, as obedient to yow as your sone Sir Philip;² and that to honour and plesour your L. yow haif power to gar him go to ony part of the world. He ernistly praxis your Honour hald him in hir Majesties good grace, and to assure hir of his thankfulnes and fidelite. I dar say nether hir Highnes nor your Honour never bestowit geir better nor is bestowit on him. He usis to fay comunly, (and allace, I feir it falbe ower trew,) that all the crafty in Europ, as weill heir as ellis whar, thriftis hir blood, and will nocht fail by flycht to do whar thai want mycht. I think it so cleir heir, as I mervell of thair blindnes that per-favis it nocht. I refer all other matteris to the sufficiency of the berar,

¹ William Colville; see p. 75.

² That is, his son-in-law, Sir Phillip Sidney. The only daughter of Sir Francis Walsingham was married thrice. Her second husband was Robert Earl of Essex; her third, the Earl of Clauricarde.

whom pleis your L. trust in the premissis, and in my awin particular. The eternell God long preserve your Honour, to his glory, and comfort of all honest men, and send me onis sum moyen wharby I may expres how affectionat I am to your service. From Stirling, the first of Julii 1586.

Your Honouris servand,

JO. COLVILLE.

To the rycht honorabill my speciall
good Lord Sir Francis Walsing-
hame, Knight, hir Maiesties Prin-
cipall Secretary.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

PLEIS YOUR HONOUR, The sufficiency of the gentill man presently sent is suche as no man nedit to inform your Honour of the estait of our effaris; yit, for discharg of that bund dewite quiche I awcht, I can not bot by theis mak signification of my ernist affection to your service, quiche, so long as I leive, fall never fail. This is the thrid or ferd tyme that I haif writtin to your Honour since I haif bein refaved in my Soveranis favour, bot hes refaved no answer, quiche I input to your wechtier effaris. When it fall pleis your Honour, I vald be glaid to heir of your good estait, quiche falbe as acceptabill to me as ony thing ellis in the varld. If I had mett wyth Mr Hoodfone at his departing, I had communicat wyth him suche thingis as I can not impert to ony other, quiche I man omitt to better oportunitie. Praying your Honour fill to hald me in your good grace, and to esteme me one of your rycht humill and affectionat servandis, as knawis God, who mot preserve your Honour. From Stirling, this xviii of October 1586.

1586.
Oct. 18.

Your Honouris humill servand,

JO. COLVILLE.

To the rycht honorabill Sir Francis
Walsinghame, Knight, hir Majesties
Principall Secretary.

COLVILLE TO DAVISON.

1586.
Nov. 4. PLEIS YOUR HONOUR, The berar heirof, Jo. Dowglas, being robbitt by fea in all that he had, defyrit me to mein his caus to your Honour, which I culd nocht goodly refuse. I tharfore humlie pray your Honour lett him find fuche favour and curtesy as conveniently may be fehewit in fuche cais, as I falbe ever redy, after my mein habilite, to be comandit by your Honour. So for the present, committing yow to Goddis bleffed protection. From Edinburgh, this ferd of November 1586.

Your Honouris to be commandit in all lefum maneir,

To the rycht honorabill Mr Villiam
Davidfone, Efquyer, one of hir
Majesties Secretaris of Estait.

JO. COLVILLE.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

SIR,

1587-8.
Feb. 16. The informacion made by Mr Walker from me concerning .b. ys trewe; and for your better fatiffacion, I have fent herewith his own lettre, together with one other from .c., which shalbe your ground, and to be ufed according to your good diferetion, for contentment of honest men there; but that from .c. must be retorned againe to me after your Wor. hath taken either the doble therof, or els fhewed yt to others that should knowe therof; for so yt is committed to me, and no otherweis.

If .b. be intertayned as appertainethe, he will effectuat the greateft woorke that ever was don by anie of this land unto you. For as to the nobles which wer banished, excepte they be unthankfull, they must kepe a faithfull dewtie unto the state. And on the other parte, .b. shall caufe .c., with feven other earles that never were yours, to geve them selves wholly unto you in any lawfull caufe, for intertaynement of religion and your particular defence; and .b. shall ingage his credit for their fidelitie. Your Wor. maie judge how necessarrie yt is to drawe such as

have bin opposed to you, and in a frendlie caufe to be your frendes. And as I shall answer first to my eternell God, next to Mr Secretareis honor and to yourself, to whom, next her Majestie, I am more obliged then to any living, if I knewe that this societie should beare covin¹ to the benefit of religion and of the realme, I should never travell therein. The occasion of the apparent troubles partlie I shewed to Mr Walkar, but the bearer can more amply inform you therof. Yt may please to trust him as myself. Item, there is a gentilman who hathe ben of late in the French Court, and yet is, (for he was thre yeres secretarie to the B. of Glasco,) entered some familiaritie with me. If you think good that for tryall of thingis I intertaine frendship with him, I will; otherweis I will be verie generall with him. He assurethe me that the B. of Dumblane² hath commission from the King of Spaine unto his Majestie here, to signifie to him of his preparacion against you;³ and to be resolved, yf he will take parte with him for the reveng of his Mother's deathe: yf he will not, he will esteame him his enemie, and guiltie of her deathe. When the answer shall be geven, I shall learn parte, yf you thinke good I deale with him. Your Wor. knowes the perrill of this tyme, and the evell that some above beare unto me. I beseeche you, therefore, consider upon it, according to your accustomed discrecion, and let the bearer be returned with all possible hast. The xvi of Februarie 1587.

Let me knowe if ther be so muche place reserved for us that we be not condemned there before we be herde, or if they have intention to assist our evell lucks with men or money. I beseeche you resolve me herein with diligence.

SECUNDUS.

¹ "Covin," or "covine," fraud, artifice: an old Scottish law phrase.

² This Bishop was William Chisholme, who became his uncle's successor in the See of Dumblane in 1564. He was much employed in public affairs by Mary Queen of Scots; but having, in 1573, been forfeited, he withdrew to France, and was made Bishop of Vaison.

³ This refers to the formidable preparations then making for the invasion of England, by the Spanish Armada.

COLVILLE TO ASHBY, THE ENGLISH AMBASSADOR.

PLEIS YOUR L.,

1589.
April 12.

This Satterday we fett fordvert to Sanctiohnfton. The malcontentit ar fled to Abirdein, and ar nocht habil to mak ony force. Thai ar togidder bot 240 hors, all landit men, and of mark. Thai tuk the Mafter of Glamis out of the hous of Kirkhill, in the Cars of Gowry, the tent of this infant, at ix in the morning, and hes careit him wyth thame; and for contempt, after he wes takin, thai careit him in triumphe by his awin castell of Glamis, his lady and fervendis behalding the fame. The indignite done to him hes irritat his Majestie wery muche, fo that I think we fall nocht returne till ether thai be expellit the realme or apprehendit. I beleif hir Majestie and hir honorabill estait, in respect the owerthraw of theis perfonis tendis no les to thair benefit nor to ouris, will confidder of hes Majestie as apertenethe, and comfort and encourage him to go fordvert in so holy ane work. Wher Bothvell is we know nocht, bot yisternycht Mar and Home, wyth thre hundrethe hors, reid to Dumblan and Doun to ferche him, bot fand him nocht. It wilbe now hard to find beraris to advertis your L., bot I fall do fo muche as I can for fupple therof; for I am so bovd to that gratius Princeffe and to my Lord Secretary, that when I haif giffin my lyif for thair service I will think it les nor thair benefites hes meritit, as knowit God, to whois blessed proteccion I recommend your L. From Stirling, this xii of Apryll 1589.

Your L. to be commandit with service,

Jo. COLVILLE.

To the rycht honorabill my Lord
Embassador of England.

COLVILLE TO ASHBY.

*Dundee, April 16, 1589.*1589.
April 16.

YESTERNIGHT Patrick Hume came from Huntly, and incontinent was committed to the House of the Town. His lettres wer received, which

contained nothing but his excuses for the taking of the Master of Glames, and an assurance that he will become an faithful subject to his Majesty, how soever his enemies did traduce him. This did irritate his Majesty more, so that my L. Seton, L. Levingston, James Chisolme, and sundrie others suspected to favour the discontented, were commanded to retire themselves. I think shortly he shall make a reformation in his list. David Cowan is come fra Bothw., but his Majesty gives him no countenance. I think they shall send na mair messages, except it be simply to come in his will without condition; there lacks naething but moyen. I pray God to move her Majesty to think hereof, as the good or evil success of this matter may import commodity or discommodity unto her State. We have already taken the house of the Bayly of Errol, and of George Drummond of Blare; and this day Fenevin and Montros, belonging to Crawford. We are 500 hagbuts and above 5000 horse.

COLVILLE TO LORD BURGHEY.¹

My humil dewitie remembrith. From our departing out of Dundie unto this daie, the appearance of matters wes sa doubtfull, and the event sa difficult to judg upon, that I abstemit to write, lest I had committit error; and yet I wes confirmit in the opinion that all sould turne to the best, like as, blessed be God, it is fallen out presently. As we came fra Dundie, on the waie we were advertist that the malcontentis were assenblit in Aberdeine with great forcis, after the fasson of that contrey; and coming that night to Brichen, our frendis dwelling about Aberdeine sent previly and advist us to be on our gardis, for we wald be assailit. All that nyght we watchit; on the next day we came to Dunnottir, perteing to the Earl Marschall, quhaire we wes for truthe advertist that they walde invade us airlie in the morne, for they were but xii short mile distant. That night also we watchit in arnes, and his Majesty wald not sa muche as lie downe on his bedd that night, but

1589.
April 18.

¹ Among the Harl. MSS., No. 4647, there is an old transcript of this letter, marked as if addressed to Mr Ashby; but the above from the State Paper Office is indorsed, "To my L. Thr.: Copie of Mr Colvile's Lettre of the 18 of April 1589."

went about lyike a gud Capitane, encouragin us. They on the other part set fordwart, and came maire nor tway myle to haif focht us; but on the waie thaire came a faintnes amang them, in fa much that Crawford privaly lefte them, Huntley wes descouragit, and the hail Barons reterit, and tuike purpose to come and render their selfe in his Majesties will. Sa the xviiith of this instant we came to Aberdein, and fand the towne voyde. His Majestie mindis not to returne till this contry be peacable, and thay maid unhabill to attempt ony sicklike werke. I withe with all my harte he may be incoragite to profecute this holy werke by your Estate as apperteineth, and by us his subjec^tes, by our faithfull obedience. As occasion fallis out, your L. falbe fra time to time advertit. In this cause my L. Hammilton hes declarit him selve very like to him sel—that is, honest and zealous. And if it wer your L^{ps} pleasure, ane lettre to him of your hande, sehawing that ye heare how worthily he hes behavit him selve, wald muc^he incorag him. Sa¹ my humill service presentit to your L., I humly take my leife, this xviiith of April, fra Aberdeine, 1589.

Your L. awin to be commandit with service,

JO. COLVILLE.

Huntley fend a lettre yesternight to his Majestie, which wes not refavit. He hes offerit to my L. Hamilton, by a mediate person, to reveile all his laite conspiracie, upon promise of favour. Whidder this wilbe acceptit or not, yet I know not. Allway it is kepte very secreite.

COLVILLE TO ASHBY.²

1589.
April 23.

My humble duty remembered. As I wrote of before, albeit this con-

¹ In place of this sentence, with the signature, the Harl. MS. has, "Let Mr Robert Bruce be partaker of this."

² From a transcript among the Harl. MSS., No. 4647, marked, "Lettre, John Colvil to Mr Ashby. Aberdeen, April 23, 1589. This title is on the back, written by my L. Burghly."

spiracy hath been greater than we looked for, and the confederates more, yet, thanks to God, his Majestie has so courageously and wisely behaved himself, that they are fled before him. Huntly is in great doubt what to do; for one day it is thought that he will enter, another day there is no hope, which proceeds from the inconstancy of his nature, alterable every moment. Errol is obstinate, and will not enter. Crawford, being a Nobleman of small ability, is thought not worthy of any great prosecution, albeit his houses here be also seized upon. Montrose, I think, shall pay for it with extremity. The prosecution of this matter will be expensive and painful to his Majestie, but the singular benefits of both the Realms. I pray God his Grace may be respected as his upright and unfeigned proceedings merit. This day, or to-morrow, we ride to the demolishing Strathbogy and Slaines, pertaining to Huntly and Errol. Sundry houses of their assistants also we mind to demolish, as of Balquhan, Achandown, and divers others. Their vassals and tenants will be compelled to be fined, and thereafter find caution, or els give in pledges for keeping of good order. Before this can be done, I think it will be 8 days. There is in the mean time explorators sent to tax them, if possible. I think, after the Earle of Bothwell hears of this square dealing, he will be afraid to attempt much with his broken men.

COLVILLE TO THE LAIRD OF WEMYSS.¹

MY LORD, my humill fervic remembrit. As I writ befor, we came heir the xviii. We haif ay remanit to this day upon hoip of the incoming of the Erlis and of thair frendis. The mest part of the Barronis ar interit, and mony of thair frendis, and hes fund caution for keping of good ordour under gret fowmes, and ar contentit to give plegis also; bot the Lordis thair feltis, Baquhan, Baillye [of] Arrol, Cluny, Achindon, and sum otheris, ar obstinat, and nocht lyik to inter; tharfor this day we fett fordvert for demolishing of thair houses. We mynd at nycht to be in Kintore, and fra that to Strabogy, Slains, Achindon, and sa furth.

¹ Sir James Colville of Easter Wemyss: Mr Tytler by mistake calls John Colville his brother (History, vol. ix. p. 72).

1589.
April 24.

This journey is bayth costly and panfull to his Majestie, bot the profeit wilbe commun to boyth the realmes. I pray God his Majestie may be fa respectit thair that he may be encouragit to go forwart in his holy intention. I think it falbe Witfunday befor we can cum fouth. We heir that th'Erl Bothvell hes amaffit sum tuay or thre hundrethe brokin men; bot how fone he heiris of the distres of his collegis heir, I think he fall abstein. I pray God wyth my hart he may tak a cours to his awin honour and weill. His Majestie is mervelusly sollicitit in the matter of Denmark; and except Monsieur De l'Isle heft, I think thair falbe na recovery in that matter. His Majestie langis for your L. return. And sa, presentng my hoill service to my-Lord Secretary, Mr Robert Bowes, my Lord Douglas, and all other frendis thair, I humly kis your handis, this xxiiii Apryll 1589.

Your L. awin servand,

Jo. COLVILLE.

I pray your L. despesch Georg Wilfone, for we think lang for him.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

PLEIS YOUR HONOUR,

1589.
May 20.

I haif refavit mair comfört by your last, send wythe Mr Hoodfone, nor ever I did sen my return home, understanding your Honour nocht to haif cast of your good opinion of me, nochtwythstanding the ingrat and barbarus deling of sum personis aganis me, compelling me be thair rigour, for safty of my lyif, to find out and follow suspitius personis, far contrar my hart and meaning; wyth quhom I joynit upon necessite, wythout partaking or knowleg of thair practefis aganis religion and the amite, ewin as we wes all forcit, at our hame cumming, to seik the assist-ance of Maxvell. Upon your last send to Wemes¹ he hes interit wery far in this levee, in so muche that we ar confranit to hald him sum-quhat, lest he fuld altogidder wndoo him self; for except the money

¹ See note to the preceding page.

cum, it is above his reache to furnis fuche trowpes. Bot the captans and principallis falbe colleçit and avancit. The multitud will fone be gatherit, the captans anis maid fuir. What ordour wilbe takin wyth thir Lordis alrely interit, and be quhat meanis Arroll and Montros, who yit lysis out, fall be foçht, is continwit to th'end of this convention, quhilk beginnis to morrow. His Majestie increffis dayly in the good cours, quhairwnto he is most happely reducit by the meanis of my Lord Chancellor, in quhom cheiflie confistis the weifare of this caus ; for if he wer put out of the way, I fee not how the façionareis culd be kept bak from his Majestie. If the Lord Hammiltonis man be unfurnefit, I man recommend him to your Honour in my Lordis name, and upon his returne your money falbe renburfit to Ja. Hoodfone, wyth sic gratfulnes as lyit in my Lord to use. Defyring no greter warldly joy than to be continwit in your L. good grace and favour, I humly tak my leif, praying God preserve your Honour. From Edinburgh, the xx of May 1589.¹

Your Honouris humill fervand,

Jo. COLVILLE.

In the purpos committit to Ja. Hoodfone for your honorabill freind I will concur fa far as I haif credeit, for he is a worthy perfonage, and one whom I haif ever honorit ; and albeit these respettis wer nocht, your Honouris request is wnto me the gretest commandment ertly, that only exceptit that procedis from the King my foverane.

To the rycht honorable my wery good
 lord Sir Francis Walsinghame,
 Knight, hir Majesties Principall
 Secretary.

¹ Among the MSS. in the Cottonian Library is another letter, described as written by Colville to William Ashby, acquainting him with the return of some of the Deputies from Denmark, dated Aberdeen, July 22, 1589. The letter is too much mutilated by fire to be now intelligible.

COLVILLE TO THE DEAN OF DURHAM.¹

1592-3.
Jan. 10.

MY LORD, my humill dewitie agknewlegit. Althocht vnaquented by frequent speche and meting, yit wpon the good report and fame yow have every where, and by commandement of a speciall freind, I have presumed to signifie a matter wnto your L., tending highlie to the benefit of religion and preservatioun of our soveranis. A gentill man of good fame and honestie had nocht long ago schewit me that theis matteris laitlie detected in Scotland ar bot superficial, carying only a particular credeit from sum few of the Spanis faëtion, as from Angus, Arroll, Huntley, and Auchindown; bot the gret commission, from the hoill body of that societie in Scotland, is to follow, and that, be all apperance, wythe the moir haft be refone of th' apprehension of Angus, Ker, and sum otheris. For discovery of this gret commission; for intelligence out of the Law Cuntrey; and practefis of gret consequence thair, he hes promist wnto me, wpon assurance of condigne revard, to cum wnto London, and to tak wpon him and perform, (if so be hir Majesties plesour,) in all theis thre pointis, at lest in sum tharof, a service verry necessar for hir present estate; craving no forder, in all humilite, bot theis conditions following, That he may have, vnder hir Majesties hand or my Lord Thesaureris, a save conduitt to pas and repas savlie, without trubill or molestation, in cais it be nocht hir plesour to accept of his overturis: That he may have presently sum competent sown of money, at hir Majesties awin prudent diferetioun, for fetling his effaris at home and preparing himself for the journey; for the whiche sown I fall stand bound to renbours the same at my vpeumming, in cais he be nocht imployit in that service. As to his revard, whiche is to be fett down at my vpeumming, he cravit nothing tharof presentlie, being content to relave the one half tharof when th'one half of his service shall be fulfillit, and the rest at the full accomplishment of the saming; wnto whiche tyme he defyrit to have yow bound wnto him for whatsoever hir Majestie fall pro-

¹ Tobias Matthews, S. T. P. Dean of Durham, was installed Dean in 1581. In 1595, he was made Bishop of Durham; and in 1607 was translated to York. He died in 1628, aged 82.

mes, and had takin my othe to wtter this matter to none wntill yt be proponit to hirself, except wnto yow alone. What assurance he hed confavit of your L. I knaw nocht; bot it semit to me he hes maid good chos, and is weill informed. And lyk as he cravit yow bound in fuche thingis es falbe promit wnto him, so hes he willit me to ly plege at London for him, wpon danger of my honestie and lyif, to be answerebill that he shall fulfill all that he promefis, or ellis los his awin lyif in that service, whiche I am content to doo, (if so pleis hir Majestie.) This seming to me a matter fruitfull wnto hir Highnes, I culd nocht, according to my bound dewitie wnto hir gratius Majestie, and desyir of the said gentillman, bot signifie the same wnto your L.; being onis fully myndit to have impertit the same wnto my speciall good lordis my Lordis Thesaurer and Chamerlane, bot that I wes restrenit by my othe in maneir forsaid, that it suld be only communicat with yow befor it wer proponit to hir Majesties self; whiche I trust shall excus me at thair Honouris handis, till I may be admittit to go wp for thir causis. Pleis your L. refave this overture, whiche I delyver vord to vord as wes communicat wnto me, dispos tharupon withe fuche secrefy and speid as your sage discretioun knawit better nor I can inform, and lett me haif answere befor the latter end of this monethe, for so I haif promit to the said gentillman. And whidder it be hir plesour to accept heirow or nocht, this muche I culd nocht omitt, for signification of a most sincere and zelus affectioun to hir Majesties service, whiche hir benignite and abundant benefites had justly deservit at my handis. So, attending your spedy and loving answere about the tyme forsaid, wyth advancement to gentillman if it be thoct meit he cum wp, I commit your Honour to Goddis blessed proteccion. From Edinburg, this 10 of Januar 1592.

Your L^p awin leffully to be commandit,

Jo. COLVILLE.

I assuir your L. nether the Erll Bothvell nor no other man knawit ony thing of this secreit bot the gentillman and I; for as I keip my Lord Bothvell's secreittis from him, so do I his from his L. and all otheris.

Jo. COLVILLE.

To my Lord Dene of Durahme.

JOHN CAREY¹ TO BURGHELY.

1593.
Aug. 1.

MAY Y^T PLEASE YOUR GOOD L. Therle Bothwell having made many humble submissiōns to the King; as fyrst to him self; afterwards before the burgessees and commonaltye of Edenbroughe; and thirdlye, before the ministerie and all the clergie; still acknowledginge his fault to the King in fyrst breaking out of the Castle at Edenbroughe, for the Abbey Road, the road of Fawkland, and lastly, for this contempt nowe done by him. Wherin he did humbly thank the King for pardoning of him thes faultes, but still besought the King that he might come to his tryall by lawe for his fyrst fact; for the which he was commytt to the Casle, whiche was for conference with wytches for the cutting of the King. Which tryall being urged by him many tymes, the King is content he shall come to his tryall betwene this and the xth of this monethe. And thervpon ther is somnance gone to all his aduersaries, to appeare and fay what thei can against him. Till which tyme, he thought (with the Kinges likinge) to retyre himself owt of his own countrey here into England, only accompanied with ii^c servantes, the rather that his enemyes might not have cause to fay they durst not comme, he being in Court. Further, he trusteth so much upon the justnes of his cause, as he dothe refuse to be tryed by noble men and his peeres, and is contented to referre himself to the judgment of coblers, taylers, or such other like artificers, whosoever yt shall please the Kinge or his aduersaries to appoynt for his tryall. And dothe further meane, that against the day appoynted he will return to Edenbroughe, and there put himselfe into the hole amongst theves and murtherers, to abyde his tryall till it be past; which being done, and he quytte of the fact, then is yt thought that hys enemyes will falle, and that he shalbe made Lieutenant-general of the wholl countrey. And all this being accomplished, then shall ther a Parliament presentlie be somoned, which shalbe for the restoringe of him to his honors and landes againe, and for the forgettinge of the Northern Lordes, and all other Papistes, who will now, I

¹ Son of Lord Hunsdon, and at this time Governor of Berwick.

think, not be so much dallyed withall as thei have bene heretofore, (coloured for religion,) but rather helpt on for pryvate revenge. In whiche interim of tyme, betwene his tryall and the Parliament, he dothe mean to come upp to our Court to her Majestie, and there to conferre and agree of what course shall please her to direct him in. Whereof he hath made very open shewe and protestacions before all the world, that next unto God and his King, he hathe vowde himself her Majestys servant; and never to take any course against her pleasure.

Nowe may it please your L. Touchinge his comming hither to Barwick, yt was to avowe by himself, that which I did wryte before unto your Lordship of, concerning the Duke and the Erll of Athelle's assurance to her Majestys service; wherein thei have all, (as he telles me,) before Mr Locke in Edenbrough, (for that I neyther was nor could be there,) bothe the Duke, the Erle of Athell, himselfe, and all there faction, (which ar many nobill men,) avowed themselves by solemne oathe to take siche parte, and run siche course as th'Erle Bothwell shall doe, eyther to the Quene or any other waye; wherof I have no better warrant then a Scottes word, which is from my L. his own mouthe. Marrie, he tells me further that he thinkes Mr Lock shall shortly bring up a lettre from all under ther handes to the same effect.

This was the only cause of his hither comynge; who is now gone further into England, toward the Bushoppbricke, to see if he can get some howndes and horses for the King; whiche he thinkes as good a thinge to please the King withall as a matter of greater weight.

But I must deale trewlie with your L. His comynge was for somewhat more, which I dare referre to your L. honorable wisdom to answer with reason. Thei affirme (as trewe it is indeede) that thei have many and great enemyes; as, all the northern Erlls, the Lord Hamilton, and Hume, with all there forces, the Master Glames and all his affynitie, which want land, the old Chancellor, and Maxwell his frende, who have all grete parties, and are both laying there heades and gathering there forces together to breake this good course, knowing it wilbe the overthrowe of theme all. Wherefore the Lordes, finding there enemyes so strong, and there owne companyes, having bene so long disjoynted, not yet well knytt together, are desyrous (if yt plese her Majest-

tie fo to firengthen theme) for a small tyme with the allowance of one hundrethe footmen and one hundrethe horsemen, onlie for one monethe, or ij^e at the mosse, till they may be better enabled to set themselves fast, which is but there defyre. Whereof I doubt not but your L. will wyfely ynunghe confider, to have somewhat more for yow before you enter into charge.

And so, humblie referringe both myself and theme to your L. wifdome, I cease your further truble, praying dayly to God to blefs you with all goodnes. Barwick, the fyrst of August 1593.

Your L. most humble to be commandit,

JHON CAREY.

To the right honorable my very good
l. the Lord Burghley, L. Highe
Threfaurer of England.

BOWES TO BURGHLEY.

Extract.

Edinburgh, Aug. 18, 1593.

1593.
Aug. 18.

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The King, in the conference with me, assured me . . .
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That before the entry of Bothwell into the King's chamber, the Duke and Spyny were with the King; and that Atholl, Ocheltree, and the Stewarts were with Bothwell and Mr John Colvill. At the Kinges coming forthe to the prefence chamber, Bothwell and Mr John submitted themselves with great humility, letting him knowe that they were driven of necessitye to attempt this manner of acesse to him, for the saiftye of ther lyves, which now they offred to his plefour. They prayed remission for ther attempts against the King at Holiroodhoufe and Fawkland, and Bothwell offred to be tryed by assyfe for all the treasons of witchcraffe objected against him.
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BOWES TO BURGHELY.

*Extract.**Edinburgh, Aug. 18, 1593.*

Accordinge to hir Majesties pleafure, I have of late given (and fhall continew to give) comforthie to Mr John Colvill, whose fervice might be found very profitable to the common caufes, and for hir Majestyes fervice, (as at my cominge I fhall make knowne to your L.) I fynde his eftait fo worne and overcharged with th'expenes of his late troubles, wherin he is not lyke to be haftely releived by anye advancement in this realme. And nevertheles, it is evident, that the present caufes fhall fuffer prejudice without his labours and helpe. Therefore I am thus bold to recommend this to your L. good confideration, that he may be feafonably comforted and releived with hir Majesty's bounty, whereof he wilbe worthy, and give thankefull recompence. The reft touching him, and the benefitt of his fervice to be employed in efpéciall forte, I referr to myne own report by tongue.

1593.
Aug. 18.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

PLEIS YOUR L. Sen the capitulation of the 14 nothing hes occurred bot quietnes, and by all apperance his Majestie meant no otherwayis, albeit the Lord Home, Metteland, Ceffurd, and fum otheris, who this long tyme have bein mortall enemeis to other, ar finally accordit, whiche gevit fum fuspitioun of fum new attemptatis to ynfew. Bot whatsoever thair meaning be, God villing, it fhالبة boythe forfein and prevented, if it tend to our hurt. The vii of the nixt is aponted for a convention of indifferent nobill men, wharin (as his Majestie affirmed) nothing is to be done bot to declare his good-lyking of Bothvelles laft humiliation, and to tret a generall concord amang all his nobillis, which I tak to be fpecially ment for Huntley. Agane that tyme, the weill affected heir humlie imploris that it may be hir Majesties plefour, ether by one fend

1593.
Aug. 21.*m. Bib*

from above or by a letter to your Leger, his L. may refave information from ws to propone fuche matteris wnto his Majestie and the eftatis as be for the benefit of the common peace of religion and of your freindis heir, and yet can not pertinently be moved to ws. This fame xxi I am boyth fend from the Nobillis heir resident to his Majestie, now at Stirling, for folliciting a commiffion to perfew the detenaris of the houfes of Cowdenghame and Spott with hofilite, (whiche are detenit and fortefeit by Home and Sir Georg;) and at that fame tyme, by his Majesties letter, warnit to repair thidder. As I find matter thair, I shall continew to advertis your Honour; wiffing that Mr Henri Lok may be hefted hidder, becaus we have committed to him matteris that we have oppined to none other. And thus for the present I commit your L. to Goddis bleffed proteccion, the xxi of this Auguft 1593, from Edinburgh.

Your L^p humill fervand,

JO. COLVILLE.

This Convention of the vii holdis at Stirling, which in our awld propheseis is eftemed ane ominous place; for we fay, Stirling *ab initio neqⁿ*.

Evin at the clofing wp of this letter I refaved your Honouris, (wharof I do humlie thank your Honour,) wharin I do find your L. wald have me to fett down in particular what good cours we ar to follow, by what meanis, and with what liking of our Sovereane. That matter being partlie committed to Mr Lok, and be refon of the constant inconstancy of our estat, as your honour ryehthlie termes it, to be with good advys fett down, I am compelled to continew for this tyme, wharin I am fumewhat hefted; certefying your Honour that in my nixt I shall be moir special in that point, to whiche tyme agane I humlie kis your Honouris handis.

To the ryecht honorabill Sir Robert
Cecill, Knight, one of hir Majesties
moft honorabill Privy Counfale.

COLVILLE TO LOK.

RYCHT LOVING BROTHER. Thair hes no thing occurred fen the capitulation of the 14 bot quietnes, his Majestie meaning, as femed, all fincerite; and for declaration of the same, hes apointed the vii of the nixt a Convention of indifferent persons. As matteris fallis out thair, ye fall knaw from tyme to tyme. Your donneuing wer werey necessar, for thir men ar funwhat impatient, and thair vprychtnes wald be mett with a prompt and spedy *benevolence*, and not with delayis, which be dethe to ws. I persave by your letter yow ar on your way, which I pray yow heft. I commit all other particularis to your diseretioun, wharin if yow have hoip to speid, infist; bot if thair be *no present* cair, lett me be tymuslie informed tharof, for my unsenzeit affection to serve that most benigne Sovereane fall never fail, howsoever habilite manque; which being supplied by hir bounte, I shall, God villing, in this realme do hir Highnes moir necessar service nor thai that ar in gretar rankis. And so, loving Brother, beseching yow excus my importunite, I commit yow to Goddis proteccion, this xxi of August 1593.

Your awin to command,

JO. COLVILLE.

To my brother, Mr Henri Lok esquier.

COLVILLE TO LOK.

TRES CHER ET TRES FIDELL. This 11 finding the young Barron of Fingafs¹ eum throuche Newcastle, I followed him to Durahme. He carries a letter to our ambaffadaris, declaring that the Kingis stay ungoing agans theis Papyftis is for that thai will inter in ward, if thair it be thoecht sufficient; and nixt the bruit of the letter delyvered be Nicodemus Scotus is cunn to his earis, and he mistakeing the mattir allegis, that I have gevin in to hir Majestie a letter under his hand counterfated, whiche he wald have his ambaffadaris fee tryid, and if it can not be

¹ Dundas of Fingask: see p. 109, note 4.

exhibit, to give the mentir to any that will affirm he ever writt any opinion concerning the incuuming of Spanyardis. Theis ar the two pointis he careis for the former. Huntley can be content to ward with in Dumbarten, wharof his uncle is captaine, or in the Castell of Saint-Andrus, whar Sir John Lyndfey, a conjured enemie to religion and your estate, is captaine. Angus, in Edinburgh with Mar, who is confederat with Huntley, and Arroll in Blaknes with Ja. Cothwold, who is Glam-mes dependant, so ward thai. Thai ar in no danger, and ward thai not as of befor when the K. shall fend to ferche Huntley, then he shall be clofed within his Majesties awin cabinet as was at the last Raid of Aberdeen. For the second, albeit it were hir Majesties plefor to produce the letter, yit I wald pray God it might be hir Majesties plefor to hald it abak, at the first, till the ambaffadaris deborded in brave language accord- ing to the K. his command; and for me, lett me be delyvered if I have done any fuche mattir as is alleged. Hir Majestie has many of his letteris, and the ambaffadaris knawethe weill aneweche his hand, and tharfor the matter is clear.

Your Proclamens ar maid, and we shall in all humilite obey. Ochiltiry, as I writ in my last, is gone to Scotland, and Bothwell shall keip quiet till this day expyer, or longer, as pleases her Highnes. Thai expectid after that day to know hir gracios plefor what to doo, that in cais thai be not employed thai may be sustened, since thai ar wholly dedicat to hir service.

O. (Lennox).B. and .3., with more, shall be keped fast by Ochiltreis and me, bot you can judge if fuche matteris be easy. The K. lyes at Sterling. Hume is in the Mers. The Flemis barque for treuth is arryved, and has brocht sum gold. My cusing Wemes, as he has a recomendacion from the K. for Mr Douglas to hir Highnes, so has he ane other to the K. of France for the awld Bishop of Glesgo. It fuld be weill done that Wemes on his honestie and not trute (?), for he has none, wer required, if the K. meant trewly to purfue Huntley or not, and I think he will grant he careis a comission agans his conscience. In all other matteris, I pray you do as I writ in my last concerning Bothwell and Ochiltiry; and lett your letters for sum few dayis be addresssed to Waillis in Durahme, to be fend to Mr Anderfson, that thai may fall only in my handis. So my humill service to my

honorabill Mecenas remembred, I recommend me to your good remembrance, and you to Goddis blessed protection, this 11 of May 1594.

Y.

Lett me know if Mr Dane be thaire; and if he be, you know my meaning. God! if I had moyen to my goodwill; but as I am, you will, I trust, have sum cair of me. The Lord be with you.

To Mr Henrie Lok, esqnyer, to be
opened by my honorabill Mecenas.

COLVILLE TO LOK.

TRES FIDELL. Youris of the 4 hereof I have boyth refaved, togidder with signification of my honorabill Mecenas plefor in continuing intelligence and tokin of forty powndis fend; whos undeserved bountie (flowing I dout not from that sweit principall fountaine thair), I shall with faythfulnes and my daylie prayer to my power deserve, if my hard fortyn suffer me not to have moyens to renburs the same. And for that this morning airlie .n. (Bothwell) did fend for me to cum to him with all diligence to Liddislaill, I am presentlie to ryid. What his erand is, and what new action he is upon, till I see him I know not, bot my abod with him shal be two or thre dayis at most, and certenly shal be immediatlie tharefter fend up. 1594.
July 14.

He is at a gret povertie, which leadis him to gret impatience, yit he must not be loft, for he is the best interpryser among thame, and he fretis the more that this Realme is clofed on him; albeit, as I ever assuir him, I do beleif if he wold be contentet to live privatlie as his uncle the Erle of Murray and Morton did, retransed in this same fort, he wold have connivance: if I may say this savlie or not, lett me know by your nixt, and it shall be offred to him as upon my hafard, and upon no assurance from you.

He is not agreed with the papistis Lordis, bot sum crafty men travellis tharin only for his perdition, that the Churche, feing him go that way, mycht be irritat agans him, nether is it to be thoct that thai will tyne

the Kingis favor for him, or that we shall los our conscience for thame, *quia Judæi non cõituntur Samaritanis*. The Churche begins, as I writ befor, to spek out againe. Thair is no better thing nor to behold us a litill, for thair ar fo many contrareis tydes among us as of necessite ther must be some schipwrak; bot if I durst, I vould still insift that sum mean thing mycht be impetrat for holding .n. (Bothwell) in good treux, leaving this to your awin travell and diferetion. This other day, in prefence of sum that loves nether you nor me, .n. (Bothwell) spak verey honestlie of you and of your laboris to thair displefor, wharof quhyithall advertist me, and me think if you culd get acente it shuld be weill done you came ons agane down, at leif if not befor, which I wold wis, with my L. Cumberland, and I fuld, knowing your dyat, bring Ochiltry to you, who, afflur yourself, with Atholl and the rest remains honest; albeit, outwardlie, thai intertein .q. (the King) with fair speeliis and schew of quietnes, bot think thai ar on thair gardes. The Baron of Fingas is agane to cum up. I can not advertis his erand, because I shal be absent at his bygoing. I pray you lett me know of Wemefs return. Mr Forret hes bein in the Northe trying what he can; he is to be heir within 2 or 3 dayis; sum bruit begins to ryis that Huntley and his crew lookis for sum more Spanyardis money, as I can lern it shal be certefeid. Thus, for the present, committing you to Goddis proteccion, I tak my leif, this 14 of July 1594.

Your awin assured to command,

JO. COLVILLE.

To Mr Henrie Lok, esquier, and to be
opinned by my honorabill Mecenas.

COLVILLE TO LOK.

1594.
July 17.

TRES FIDELL. The 17 heirof I am returned from my Lord. I faud men had bein bufy with him, for theis Papißt lordis, as Hakerston and Cranston; but one Dikfone, now secretar to Arroll, whom I think you know, advertist him not to trest therein. He hes sum intentions, boyth ordinar and extraordinar, as a dealing with the Chancellour, which can tak no effectis, boyth becaus the Quene hes inhibit it, for that hir Majestie had confesed a new hatred agans him, as also becaus in the said Chan-

cellour dayly sum one or other felisist apperis to trap my Lord. The extraordinary formes ar sum houfes he hes about Edinburg and Lyulithgo wharin to plant men and tak sum ocaasion be the way of his Majesties passage; but his Majestie, for avoyding all schame that mycht fall to him that way, so long as the ambassadoris ar in Scotland, permittis the Chancellour, and sum otheris, to hold his L. in hoip of favor; albeit, he be deliverat, if it be hir Majestis plefor to tak no peace bot by hir mediacion, for he had alrede what securitie his hart culd wis, bot laking the vadimony of a foren prince, all his securitie hes provin nocht. The misery of this cuntrey fill increfis, by the povertie of the Prince, and querrelles among the subjectis, for ou this Baptisme, and the moyens ar so meane to bear it out as his Majestie shall have gret schame; yea, the three or four ambassadoris alrede arryved from Denmark, Brousvike, Magdelburg, have been hourlie enterteinit, and thai, with two others from the Low Cuntreis, must be all the tyme enterteinit on the Kingis purse. Theis indeed alrede cum ar thoct perfons of small account, and our treatment shall be meitter for fuche nor for men of greter calling. That nycht thai arryved, the Quens Majestie lying at the Abay, leif thai had sein hir, the next day, whar she lay not lyik a princeffe of fuche birth and vertues, sche retired by the Quens ferrie to Falkland.

The Chancellour and rest of the Counfile lying at Edinburg hes fend to sollicit his Majestie that the baptisme may be at Edinburg, becaus the ambassadoris can not be furnist at Stirling, and the gret tempill of Solomon which is a building,¹ can not be perfyted befor the day prefixt.

Bothwell will remaine upon the Scottis Bordors till this Baptisme be by, and, as I writ befor, he is in hoip of sum interpris befor that tyme; bot I do think he can not effectuat. Sum advyfes him to lay ambuscad for the murthour of Sir George Hume, whom I have cause to hait as moche as any man, bot lett the Lord work his plefour with me, to ane murthour shall I never consent. I think you shall shortlie refeye your bond and myne from Mr Jakfone; and so beseeching the Lord preserve that most gracius Majestie thaire, I do my humill service to my honor-

¹ The rebuilding of the Chapel Royal: "Because the Chapell Royall and Castell of Striuling was not fully compleit in all such necessaries, as was requisite."—(A Reportarie of the Baptisme of the Prince of Scotland, Ediuburgh, 1594, 4to.)

abill Mecenas, committing you to Goddis bleffid protection, this 17 of July 1594, from Tweedmowthe. Y.

Report for certaine that the Bifhop of Rofs, Lellie, is quietly at Lendors; for Mugdrum our frend, whom you know, did fee him.

To my loving brother Mr Henrie Lok,
efquyer, and to be opened by my
honorabill Mecenas.

COLVILLE TO LOK.

1594.
July 21.

TRES FIDELL. This I writ in gret heft, referring moir larg discours to my nixt. The 16 heirof a fchip is arrevd at Aberdeen with Mr Ja. Gordon, uncle to Huntley; fum cofforis ar cum with him: what is in thame yit we know not. Our Secretar is to cum up for accufacion of Bothwell, and feilling of moir money upon larg promefes, to go fowndlie agans theis papiftis; but it is folie to think that any purfuit falle upon thame, for the barons of religion hes offred to furnis his Majestie to that erand, if he will accept, it fo being thai chos the captans and officiaris that fhuлд purfew thame, bot thai will give no money in his awin handis, feing thai know it fhall be ufed to ane other ufe. Tharfor, you may give what you lift, bot it fhall not be ufed to the end you vold. His Majestie, this other day, opinly fell out in fpeche agans my lord Theafurer and Sir Robert Cecyll. The caus I fall at lenthe in my nixt expres; and he is reduced to that extremite, finding his judgements at this tyme that no man dar almoft fpek to him. God give him grace in tyme to fee from whence this malheure proceeds; and fo for the prefent, I pray God pre-ferve you, this 21 of July 1594.

Your awin affured,

[Jo.] COLVILLE.

Lett me know if Mr Dane be fill thair.

To Mr Henrie Lok, to be opennid
by my honorabill Mecenas.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

MY HONORABIL LORD AND MECENAS,

This few lynes I thocht meit only to putt in your handis, to go no farder bot to hir Majestie, and your most honorabil Father my special good lord. It is certane that the King hes confav'd a greit jeloisie of the Quene, which burnis the moir the moir he coveris it. The Duik¹ is the principall suspected. The Chancellour castis in materiallis to this fyir. The Quene is forwarn'd; bot with the lyik cunning will not excus, till sche be accus'd. *Hec sunt incendia malorum*; and the end can be no les tragical nor wes betuix his parents. The President of the Seffion, called the Priour of Pluscardy,² the Queenis gretest counsalour, is by hir indirec'tly stirr'd up to counterpois the Chancellour,³ whom sche blames of all theis sklanderis; and the Chancellour is indirec'tlie supported by th'other: boyth the Princes holding the wolf by the earis; for which-foever of thame prevail, or if the destruc'tion of one bring on the destruc'tion of th'other, boyth the Chancellour and President have apperant evasions; for the governement, thair look, fall fall of the young Prince to the hous of Hammiltoun, and the Chancellour hes maried the Lord Hammilton's niece, and the President is to the Lord Claud Hammilton brother in law. The young Baron of Fingas⁴ is either thair, or to be schortlie. I do thinke he will, as his dewite is, fay the best for the King, and excus the hard spechis whiche his Majestie hes uttered of my Lord your father and your selfe, and therwith all he will serioullie fay for the Kingis sincerite in the ac'tion of Religion and amitie. Bot being, as he is indeid, a religius, honest gentill man, and one that I do heir hes reported wery honorably of your L., if he have acces to your L., being

1594.
July 26.

¹ Ludovick Duke of Lennox.

² Alexander Seton, third son of George sixth Lord Seton, was Prior of Pluscardine. He successively became Lord Urquhart and Earl of Dunfermline, Lord President of the Court of Session, and Lord High Chancellor.

³ Sir John Maitland, Lord Thirlestane, then Lord High Chancellor of Scotland.

⁴ Alexander Dundas of Fingask; the ancestor of the Baron Dundas of Aske, co. York (1794), and Earl of Zetland (1838).

demandit of his opinion what factions ar in our Court, and how far men dar of honestie affirm of his Majestie's sincerite, cannot in the first, being a litell towched tharon, deny the former jelosy, with mony moir emulations; and in the other, I think, shall not wis protestations to be trusted on the Kingis behalf, till Tyme, the parent of treuth, try the fame.

If it be your plesour that support be socht to pursew theis Papistis, lett it be demandit, What nedit the King to have support to tak, impierson, and torment sum of Huntleyis most secreit servandis, daylie hanting at Court, till thai reveill the verite of theis foren practefis?

That in so muche as at the last Parliament the Barons and landit men of Fyf, Angus, Lowthien, Strethern, and Mernes, offered to furnis his Majestie to the jurney aganis the Papistis, and to hafard thair lyves with him, Why he refused thair offer, or prolonged the said persuit?

Why now, hearing of this lait fragett arryved at Aberdeen, he roun not with suche zeall as he dois agans Bothwell, seeing thai, having the univerfall hatred of the Chnrche and pepill, ar moir easily owerthrawn nor the other?

The gentill man being, as I am assured he is, boyth honest and religiis, I hoip can not bot resolve yow heirin.

All other matteris I have written apart, according to my former custome, to be also perused by your L. And so, humilie craving pardon for my boldnes, I tak my leif, beseching the Lord of lordis preserve hir most gratins Majestie, whom He hes most miraculustie sett for a constant and firm enclume¹ to brek all the hammeris of his enemeis; my Lord, your most honorabill father; and you, my loving Mecenas. This 26 of July, 1594.

Your L. humill servand,

JO. COLVILLE.

To my honorabill Mecenas Sir Robert
Cecyll, Knight, one of hir Highnes
most honorabill Privy Counsaile.

¹ Enclume, Fr., an anvil.

COLVILLE TO LOK.

TRES FIDELL. I writ now with certanty that Mr Ja. Gordon hes brocht in money with him, and that he hes put theis Papist lordis in suir hoip of frangeris befor the end of this harvest; for preventing wharof, as I writ in my last, the Miniftry hes bein at his Majestie; and it is concludet, since he can not him self befor this Baptifine go agans thame, that Argyll, Atholl, Forbes, M'Intofhe, fall be lieutenantis; that the Bourrowis thall furnis on thair charg 600 hagbuttaris, and the Barrons 400 hors, all to be done presentlie and immediatlie after the said baptifine, his Majestie to follow. This conclusion hes weill pleased the Church, and thair think the same stuf thall content you. It is trew Edinburg, for thair pairt, is busy to furnis out thair extent; bot befor the Barrons can convene, lying so far fundry, and tharefter mak collection and left¹ thair men, the baptifine will be past to all menns opinion. The Secretary² will cum up with theis and suche other plaufbill promefes from the Court, provyding you will give him money: as thoct³ the caus wer propirlye youris and not his,⁴ and as if he shuld be hyred to that which his awin conscience, the preservacion of his Crown, and ernes instance of his pepill, urges him unto so importunatlie, that he feethe weill aneuche his awin perrell if he hearken not unto thame. Tharfor, lett him not have that advantage of you as to think he wer out of danger of King Philip bot for your caus, bot rether urge that in respect thair ar lyik first to arryve in his Realme, wharin ar a gret part of his nobilite redy to reseve thame, that he is in the first danger, and so shuld rether invyit others nor be invyted. Winning this point of him, then can he crave no moir help of you in money or men, nor as is contened in the leage, whiche bindis you not to any present deburfing; or rether it shuld persvad him, if he have a power of frangeris and of his awin pepill, which he may not resist, bot with your help, to indent with you as the Protestantis of France ons did, or as the Estatis of Flanderis laitlie had done, which is to put in your handis sum strentis most fitt to resist the enemy. If it be objected that suche coldnes may

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July 29.

¹ Left, lift, or raise.

² See p. 116, foot-note.

³ Thoct, though.

⁴ His, obviously not the Secretary, but King James.

move the K., tak ane other cours, lett not that terror feare you, for affuir yourself, as God levis, his mynd is with the Papifits alredy, bot he feethe his Crown pulled of his head, and his Sone establisshed, if he joyn oppinlie with thame; tharfor, althocht boyth himself and his ambaffadoris spek larghe in this point, ether he shall not joyn at all with thame, or if he do, yow shall have the stronger and better parttie for yow, as wes agans his unhappy Mother. It may wery weill be said, that his Cuntrey furnishing him during the tyme 1000 men, as is fett down, for tua monethis, yow feing his zeall and sincerite with that force (which be all apperance is bastant for all the papifits of Scotland), if thair power in this tyme prove moir nor this supplie of his cuntry can goodly owerthraw, then wer it unkyndlie, on your part, to see him succum in so just a caus. In this tyme, boyth his actions and our privy intelligence will mak you fuir of his meaning, which for the present is not fertein upon my lyif, if in the space of thir two monethis he alter from the wers to the better be importunite of his pepill or othervayis I will knaw it; bot presentlie the Abbot of Lendors (who will be one of the cheif at this baptifme), the gret Mr of Ceremonies,¹ and Pa. Murray, hes letters wecklie going betwix the K. and Huntley, and a man has promesed me to do muche to intercep one of the letters: by this man, at lest, I fall know how sone the Papifits ar degousted of the K., and befor that tyme money gevin him is bot lost.

This morning I was informed that the Baptifme is continued to the 16 of the nixt.

Bothwell, at his last going in, cawfed his brother Hercules writ this letter inclosed. He is presentlie in Edinburg; no end betwix the papifits and him as yit: he is defyrus to spek your ambaffadoris at his bygoing, wharof lett us knaw hir Majesties plefor. And for that his pepill of Lid-diffaill ar prepared to mak gret incurfions, I have delt with him to stay

¹ Sir Patriek Lesley, Commendator of the Abbey of Lindores, acted as Master of Ceremonies, assisted by William Fowler, who contrived the pageantry and interludes for this festive occasion. In erecting the Abbaey of Lindores into a temporal Lordship, in favour of Lord Lindores, in 1606, one reason assigned is, "the great sowmes of money charges and expensis sustenit be him at his Majesteis marriage, baptisme of the Prince his darrest sone, and utherwayes sensyne."—(Acta Parl. Scot. vol. iv. p. 355.)

thame from doing any harm to hir Majesties pepill, and he hes promesed, that being requested tharunto by any of hir Majesties officiatis, thai shal be refrained; tharfor, me think, it shuld not be amiss Mr Governour wer informed to fend Cudbord Armour to him, with a letter to that effect. Thus, my humill service presented to my honorabill Mecenas, I commit you to Goddis protection, this 29 of July 1594.

Your awin assured,

Y.

I can not hear whar Mr Dane is, tharfor
I pray you advertis me.

To my loving brother, Mr Henry Lok, esquyer.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

MY HONORABILL LORD AND MECENAS,

In respect the matter following I am willed by Bothvell to impert only to your self, pleis your L., after knowleg of hir Highnes plefour, to lett me have your awin answer tharon apart. Other demandis and occurrentis lett be ansered by our ordinary faythfull friend Mr Lok.

1594.
July 30.

Bothvell hes lyin this whyill at Edinburgh and tharabout. He hes bein mervelusse sollicit by theis Papist Lordis (one Sir Ja. Cliffolme, and Wm. Drommond, who hes gret intres in him of oold acquentance, being thair instrumentis in thes cais). Heirupon aros all theis bruittis that he wes apontit with thame, which yit is nocht. At lenthe thai offred to him (bringing in with him his fellowshipp of Atholl and the rest to be conjoynd with thame) the present delivry of 25,000 crownes, with that proviso, thait I wer nocht put in the counsele tharof. To which he ansered, that if he endit with thame, he fuld nether put me nor any unfriendlie man on that counsele; bot he wold advys with otheris indifferent persons, and give thame ane peremptory answer the 25 of the nixt. This he thocht meater nor to give thame plane refusall,

for two causes; th'one and chiefe, to know hir Majesties mynd befor he embarqued with any; the other, lest he refusing, the self same fowm mycht be gevin to sum of your enemies; for Home is gaping for it, and hes bein in the northe for that same effect. Bot the said Chiffolme and Drommond, loving Bothvell moir, and knowing him to be of better action, vould rather wis the commodite to fall in his handis. Now this 29 he returned, and sending for me, opinned this matter, regratting muche his hard estat, being in hart and conscience tyed only to yow, and by necessiteis pressed other wayis. For this caus he willed me in all humilite to prefer unto your L. his humill demandis, that ansuer tharof may be returned befor the 25 forfeid; and the rest of the demandis to be sett down apart, this only following to be put in your Honouris awin handis, viz.—

That if hir Majestie thocht meit, he vould refave of thame the money forsaid, and give his bond in this sort, that he shuld ether joyne with thame agane suche tyme, with suche numbers as thai agre upon, or elles refund bak thair money at that tyme; and with that money (in case he cannot, befor the resait tharof, posses the estat) list men for possesing tharof, and persuit of the said Papistis; craving no moir of hir Highnes, bot that one of her awin being send to see that money bestowed for the service of religion and th'amitie by hir direction, he may have so muche of hir Majestie to renburs agane to thame, for savoring his credeit, togidder with sum present consideration of his necessiteis till he may compas this matter. For as his hart careis him to serve no other Foren prince, so hir gratius bounte to manie otheris incurages him, and his awin necessites urges him, to be bound to none other.

The causes moving him to consait this matter is, to the end the said Papistis, reposing on him, (for by his meanis only thai mynd to list thair horsmen if this hold,) may be the moir esily owerthrawin, and he strentened with thair awin wepons to do hir Majestie that service which by his awin meanis he cannot do, and hir Highnes excusabill in his interpryses, in that hir Majestie may affirm he is not furnesed by hir.

This purpos Bothvell delyvered to me, with suche request of secrecy, that onis he wold not have me to writ it, bot to go up with it, which I

planlie refused, alleging that without commandment or permission I durst nocht. Nixtly seid he, Becaus it may appeir sumwhat unhoneft on my part, lett it only be proponed in generall, What if a Nobill man wold do such a turn, how wold it be accepted? Bot I delyver it *in hipothesi*, to be estemed and ansered as hir Majestie thinkis fitt; thinking, till it be sein whidder the King wilbe sinceir or not, nocht mindit to keip this man to be ane wage¹ of his awin wood to ryis him; a man to spek treuth, thocht youthfull and wnfettlet, yit whar he is oblist, and promefes, honeft and loving, and the best interpryfer we have. And the compas of monethe will decypher the King, who fall mask him self weill if I difmask him not to be sein. Theis wordis be presumptius and undewtifull by outward sehew, bot with tyme, your Honour shall see thame to proceid boyth from a dewtifull and humill mynd. So, humlie craving pardon for my boldnes, I expect your awin anfuier to this letter with such speid as pleis your Honour, besefching the Lord of lordis to reward yow for your wndeferved kyndnes, and to mak me thankfull. This penult of July 1594. Fra Bervik. Your Honouris humill fervand,

JO. COLVILLE.

Pleis your Honour, anser this demand *in thesi*, that Bothvell may think I have proponed it fo.

The King repentis him foir that he hes maid fuche convocation to this Baptisme;² for, upon the jelse mentionat in my last, he beginnis to dout of the child: I think he had not been baptifed at this tyme if so many Princes had not bein invyted. That matter takkis deip root on boyth fydis.

Nocte dieque fuos gestant in pectore fastus,
Incautos perdet tacita flamma duos.

To the rycht honorabill Sir Robert
Cecyll, Knight, one of hir Highnes
most honorabill Secreit Counsalle.
To be delyvered in his awin handis.

¹ Wage, wedge.

² The baptism of Prince Henry took place on the 30th of August 1594, in the Chapel Royal of Stirling Castle.

COLVILLE TO LOK.

1594.
July 30.

THE 29 heirof my L. returned from Edinburg: he is now in Liddifdaill. The papist Lordis had been buffy with him by meanis of Sir Ja. Chif-folme and Wm. Drommond, whom you know. Thai offer him money and gret conditions, bot he hes deferred answer to the 25 of the nixt, so that whatfoever shalbe said to the contrary you fall upon my credint affirm this to be trew, wharupon I have herewith fend his awin letter which he writ to me this same day for confirmacion of all heirtofor in his name, and presentlie alleged by me.

I have herewyth fend suche petitions as he in humilite craved answer unto befor the 25 forsaid, togidder with my awin opinion how for his better carriage he may be assured in sum pointis. As for our estat, as I writ befor, the K. hes fatefeid the Churche be directing out commissiions to Argyll, Atholl, Forbes, to go presentlie upon Huntley with fyir and sword, and that he shall follow after the baptism; bot Argyll must be at the baptisme as Gret Stewart, and Atholl is limeted within his awin cuntry under the bond of gret fowmes, which yit ar not discharged, and Forbes lysis so far of as befor the baptism hardlie can he be advertit; so all this is superficial.

The K., to give occasion to the ambassadoris of sudaine departor, will pretend a suddain going agans the Papistis, but non of thair houfes shall ether be dimolefed nor put in thair enemies handis, for he will annex all thair landis to his Crown, and so he will put his awin officiatis in thair houfes, who will be as cairfull for their weill as thair awin fervantis, the exempill wharof wes the last tyme his Majestie tuik Huntley's houfes.

Thair is a gret deall of money cum in, and moir to cum. The number of Spanyardis expected ar bot 3000 or 4000 thousand, and to cum from Dunkirk, to heft thame one is agane fend. Mr Forrett (who is evin now returned from a dangeris journey, for he went to Aberdeen thinking to have found his brother), wold be hefted ower to try this: by him you will hear many things which I can not writ.

This ambassadour, Mr Richard, will mychtely insift for money, bot as I writ befor, lett not the King win that point of yow as thoct the

caus wer moir yours nor his. It is tyme to give him when he is sein worthy, which will sone appear; and lett this Ambassador¹ alleg what he will, whedder you gif him money or none, the King must go agans theis Papistis or los his Crown, tharfor you may behold without perrell.

I still recommend my Lordis necessite to you moir nor my awin; wharin, becaus I knaw you do your faythfull diligence, I will not spure a running man; referring that and all our other adois to your diferection, this penult of July 1594.

Your awin assured,

JO. COLVILLE.

The 3 Erlls have offred prively to the K. 10,000 crownes upon sum conditions: whidder thai be accepted or not I fall lern. Mr Forrett takks jurney the 3 or 4 of the nixt; if Mr Dane be thaire, have me humlie commendit and excusit, and lett me ons knaw whidder I shall direct my lettres to his Wor. *Ayés souvenance de moy.*

The Erle of Argyll hes sum men togedder, bot it is agans Ogilby, and not Huntley, upon the old food² which you knaw.

Huntley hes now with him M'Oncale, M'Klen, Glengun, M'Kloyid, M'Kenze, the principallis of the Iles, who hes promefed, if thai get money, to find [upon] a monethis warning 20,000 or 30,000 men.

This war (fayis Chiffolme to my Lord) in Scotland shalbe fastened by the Pope, K. of Spanne, the D. of Florence, and ane other D. in Italy, whom I have forgott; wharin thai lay thair compt to furnis for three year 20,000, bot I hoip in the Lord, *parturiunt montes: nascetur ridiculus mus.*³

To Mr Henrie Lok, esquyer, to be opinned
by my honorabill Mecenas.

¹ At this time Richard Cockburne of Clerkington, Secretary (who was afterwards knighted, and made Lord Privy Seal), was sent by James to solicit aid from Elizabeth to pursue the Popish noblemen.

² Food, feud.

³ Horat. de Arte Poet. l. 139.

COLVILLE TO LOK.

1594. TRES FIDELL. The inclosed will inform you of the estat of matteris
 Aug. 5. since Ja. Forret his departing, whom I pray you assist feruillie, and
 communicat with him siche matteris as I fend up. Thus having no new
 thing moir to writ, I besече the Lord preserue you, this 5 of August
 1594.

Your awin assured,

Jo. COLVILLE.

To Mr Henrie Lok, esquier, and to be
 oppined by my honorabill Meeenas.

COLVILLE TO LOK.

Tweedmouth, 10 Aug. 1594.

1594. TRES FIDELL. By the inclofit (which I thocht good to fend even as I
 Aug. 10. refased it fra our awin *quondam*¹), yow well see our present estat; all
 being (boyth, as I do beleif, your awin Embassador and the Church,) in
 gret diffidence of the sincerite of the Court. The Kingis Majestie
 travellis mychtely with all the Embassadoris to mak no intercession for
 Bothwell, and frequent messages is betuix him and the Papist Lordis, to
 the greif of the Church; and wheras *quondam* (A. Primros) pressis me
 to hearken wnto the counsaile of sum that vold have me at quietnes,
 whiche being with honestie I crave above all erdly thing. Yit the sub-
 tilite of my adversaries, and faythfullie professed dewite hear, whar I am
 boyth faved and susteined, is siche as, fering the one and respecting
 th'other above all erdly thing, I will deal so in the matter, God willing,
 as th'enemie shall not compas me, nor my frendis think me inconstant;
 bot what I do shall be with thair consent and commandment, and as a
 matter necessaire for thair service.

¹ Interlined in Lok's hand, "is gossop: scilicet, Archy Primros, the Duk's Commis-
 sioner." Archibald Primrose, the ancestor of the Earls of Rosebery, was about this time
 employed by Colville, Commendator of Culross, in managing the revenues of the Abbey.

Since .q. (the King) his deling is yit wuder gret fuspition, till the verite tharof be cleared, travell, I pray yow, that .n. (Bothwell) be not cast of. For if .q. (the King) fail, thair can not be fuche a vage,¹ to ryis him by, as a vage of his awin wood.

All other matteris being recently written with Ja. Fforett, I remit to him, and him to your freindlie affittance, this 10 of Auguft 1594. From Twedmouth, 1594.

Your awin

.Y.

To our Secretary it may be faid, that thair is no performance in thingis promefed by Court, for the perfuit promefed the xi heirof agans the Papiftis is continued to the xxvi; and the folemnite of this Bap-tifme being the xviii, the King cannot be fo fone prepared, wer he never fo villing, becaus the Embaffadoris can not be difmiffed within the compas of 8 dayis.

Then inform him, if he knawis it nocht, being a matter in Ifraell, that thair is a request to be preferred to his Majestie by the Church and Barrons, that in respect findry of his courteouris ar thoct to be ower favorabill to the faid Papiftis, and will feik to impeche his Majesties awin zeall if he be present thair with thame; that for that caus it may pleis his Majestie direct fuche lievtenantis as ar knawin most zealus in religion, and greteft illvillaris to thame, accompanied by fum of the Miniftry and Barrons, to fee that the perfuit be not in fchew only; as it wes when his Majestie went befor agaus Huntley.

Schaw him that the continewall intercours of Pa. Murray betuix his Majestie and Huntley, and of Dunnipas² betuix his Majestie and Arroll, is moir manifest in Scotland, however he mask it in England.

Lett theis other be delyvered to Mr Forrett. Lett my honorabill Mecenas have the alphabet befyd, becaus it is neidfull he oppin my lettres, wherfoever you be.

To Mr Herrie Lok, esquyer, and to be
opinned by my honorabill Mecenas.

¹ Vage, wedge.

² Livingstone of Dunipace.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

MY GOOD LORD AND MECENAS,

1594.
Aug. 31.

The 25 heirof the Lord of Logy wes takin at Stirling, and fend to the Castell of Blacknefs, and fum hors wer sent to Fife for serche of the Lord of Spynie and Erl of Craufurd, who ar thoecht to be Bothvellis freindis. Him self is tharabout, bot I hoip in God in no danger. The 3 Papist Erllis for treuthe wer privatlie at Dumblane the 25 heirof, dealing privalie for stay of Argyll, who is preparing agans Huntley, at the infligacion of fum of the Ministry who ar presentlie with him. The banquet began at Stirling the 25 heirof, bot I hear the Baptisme will not be till the 2 of the nixt. The Lord Hume, since his last cumming from the northe, hes hyred a gret many pilottis. Since the return of Ja. Forrett I have not sein Bothvell; bot I go in presentlie to find him, to know how he will accept of the anwser fend with the said Forrett. The Erle of Suffix, at his bygoing, vold nether spek nor refave information of us, alleging he wes alrely informed how to proceed, in cas the Danis Ambassadouris shuld begin furs to muve for Bothvell; wharof I was weill pleased, be reson I do not esteme it for hir Majesties service that any gret intereession wer maid, or that Bothvell shuld have his peace, so long as yow have no certenty of .q. (the King), which I shuld be fory to writ or spek to any other; for if .q. (the King) prove unkynd (as I knaw he will: it is best to ryis him with a vage of his awin wood), thoecht I be a Scottifman, yit I am not of that number *qui sibi fingunt principem Scotobritanni*.

I dout not your Honour hes seine *Natalia nostri principis* maid by fum *placbo*¹ to flatter our King and offend hir Majestie. The 24 heirof one Mr Valwood, civilian in Sanct Andros, spak with me at his bygoing. By him I saw the said *Natalia*, and understood that he had a direction to the Kingis Majestie from fum of this Realme who hated Bothvell, and wiffed his Majesties prosperite; who, notwithstanding, wiffed him to reconcile

¹ This *placbo* was Andrew Melville, at no period chargeable with seeking court-favour. The poem is entitled "Principis Seoti-Britannorum Natalia," Edinburgi, 1594, 4to. four leaves. See Mc'Crie's Life of Melville, vol. i. p. 377.

with Bothvell, for strentkening him self. Who theis be I culd not find out of him, bot I fall do diligence now at my ingoing to try; bot this I do perseve, who ever thai have bein, thai have bein no frendis ether to your honourable father or your self, for so muche he said to me, not knowing how far I wes rendered to your service.

When suche matteris occurris pertinent to your self, or that I am required of the parteis, as I wes in other two letters, to writt specially to your Honour, lett it not (I beseeche your L.) be thocht presumption in me, or distrust of Mr Lok; bot as ever it be, lett me know your awin plesour herein, for I desyr no longer to live if yow be offendit with me.

By a letter of your Honouris to Mr Governour, and ane other of Mr Lok his to myself, I find yow have had a gret confict with our Ambafadoris for my removing, and that your Honour seemis informed I am too desyrus to cum up. For the former, I can bot humlie thank your Honour, as for the rest of your undeserved curteseis; and to the other, I protest it wes never in my mynd to cum up nor remane hear bot as yow shuld direct me for hir Majesties service, to which I dedicat my self to walk into, not after my awin opinions, or any Scottisman's, bot by hir provident commandementis, for in that I hafard my self, and takkis the pains I do. If your Honour think it be not principally for hir Majesties service moir nor for any respect to theis Nobill men (whom, notwithstanding, I love and honour in dewtifull maner), fuirle I am ill interprit. Thai, indeid, findry times have pressed me to go up, takking a better opinion of my labour nor I do my self; yea, .p. (the Queen) once requested me, bot I told planlie I wold do no thing without permission or commandment from above. Tharfor I can not think bot thair is sum that crossis me, for what caus I know not, alleging moir nor I know my self. From suche, please your Honour, since yow ar my Mecenas, lett me have your patrominy, and be not ashamed to defend and comfort me, so long as I have moir courage to serve your Honour nor any other subiecte. And thus, hoping by the nixt, ather to my self or to Mr Governour, to know your plesour in the premyssis, I humlie tak my leif, committing your Honour to Goddis blessed protection. This last of August 1594.

Your Honouris humill servand,

JO. COLVILLE.

Q

For Mr Forret, I fall advertis him of your plesour.

To the Rycht Honorabill my lord and
Mecenas Sir Ro. Cecyll, Knight, one
of hir Highnes honorabill Privy
Counfele.

COLVILLE TO LOK.

1594.
Sept. 2.

TRES FIDELL. As I writ in my last, I came in hear to Eding^r to have found .n. (Bothwell), and from that I went to Stirling, bot yit hes not found him. I do think he is returned bak to Liddisdail, for which caus I have fend Ja. Forrett thidder, to knaw his mynd in the lait answervis; fo lett no falt be imputed to me, if to this tyme no thing be hard tharof. I have also willed the said Forrett writ .n. his mynd concerning that mattir, if he meit with him befor me, which I besече yow let suffise. Gret bruittis ar hear that .n. hes agreed with the 3 Erllis, by suggestion of Spott, Hakerston, and Cranston, who ar all thre indeed with him; bot trest no thing tharof till yow hear it ether from Forrett or me.

The ~~pende~~ 29 of the last, the Baptifm wes: The Prince name is Henrie. The King and all beis in Eding^r this 3. The Danis and Flenis will mak no stay. The King promefes indelaitlie¹ to go on the Papistes, albeit his proclamations be not till the latter end of this monethe. Bot theis matteris gois so coldlie agans thame, that no man trustis moir nor he feis. One thing fall be found certane, that, joyn with thame directlie or indirectlie who will, (yea, thoct it wer the King him self,) he will find as muche to doo as his Mother did, affeying the lyik pratique. Tharfor yit behald, and how ever it go, honest men will fall on your fyd, and (agans my self I spek) the moir indifferent yow seem to us boyth, fo the fouer fall we ly by the earis.

Argyll indeid gois forvard; bot the King, fearing opiny to stay him, uses many indirect meanis, which I fear in end fall stay him. I beseech yow ons agane, writ sum freindly lynes to Ochiltry, for yow ar muche bound to him. Do my service to my honorabill Mecenas, and

¹ Indelaitlie, immediately.

schaw his Honour I fall, God villing, try fuche matteris as I writ of to him befor I return. Thes the Lord preferve yow, good brother. Frum Linlithgow, this 2 of September, 1594.

Y. [JO. COLVILLE.]

The taking of Logy, in my opinion, will grow to sum gret mattir, evin in the bowellis of the Court.

To my loving brother, Mr Henrie
Lok, Esqyuer, and to be opinned
by my honorable Mecenaz.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

PLEIS YOUR HONOUR,

Befor I culd find my Lord, (he feiking me one vay, and I him ane other,) it was the 5 heirof, befor which tyme he had directed Mr Forrett away, without my knowledge or consent, as I fall answer upon my credeit, albeit I writ two sevrall letters to the said Forrett to tak no journey in hand till he spak with me, which letters I knaw ar not cum to his handis. My Lord schawis me he is directed specially to my Lord Chamberlane, to declair two thingis; the one, to offer certane thingis on the behalf of the Papist Lordis, as that thai shalbe bound to schark of all frendschip contrareis to th'amicie, and simpillie to follow fuche cours as hir Majestie shall direct; th'other, that he will inter in no frendship with thame prejudiciall to the dewite professed to hir Majesties service. Upon boyth theis headis, and all other matteris which passed betwix him the 28 of the last, and fundry of the said Papitis, (as Angus, Arroll, Crawford, Kaitnes, Sudderland,) I have at lenthe conferred, and must confes, for keeping my credeit and professed allegiance to hir Majestie, befor all Erand without exception, that thair is no trew meaning, nether in the said Papitis nor Bothvell, to hir Majestie, bot only intention to abuse hir Highnes. For, finding at the said conferance that he dif-

1594.
Sept. 6.

2 offers of
th'Erle
Bodwell.¹

¹ This marginal note is in Cecyll's hand—also the underlining.

fembled with me, fufpecting be fum wordis I had uttered that I lyiked no thing of his meting with thame without my knowleg, and that he went about to deny thair meting, till it grew fo manifelt that it paff denyall; whar upon I faid, that be his former doing he maid thingis lawfull unlawfull and fufpitius, in fo muche as he went about to hyid and keep up matteris from frendis; and fo at lentle he opinned up all that paff amang thame, and thair moft fecreit intentions in profecuting thair werk, which is intendit to be in this fort:

Thai mynd at firft to fpek no thing agans religion or th'amite, bot to feik reformacion of the Eftate, and removing certane perfons from his Majeftie; which being, and thai poffeffed in the Eftate about his Majeftie, thai mynd in fair manneir to intreat hir Majeftie to mak the King fecurite of his tytill, which if hir Highnes delay or refufe them, thai will complene, and feik fupport of all Chriftiane princes, of what religion fo ever thai be, to ayid thame for debating the rycht of thair Sovereane and revengeing the death of his Mother. This is the fecond degre. And the laft, that all concurring to this fervice fhall have libertie of confeience, wharof no mention fall be maid at the beginning. And to th'end hir Majeftie fuld fufpect no thing heirin, thai have villed Bothvell, in thair name, to offer that thai fall be rewled by hir advys, and to imploir hir Highnes to perfuad the Churche heir that thai mean no thing to the hurt of religion, bot to the reformacion of the Eftate.

Bothvell alfo hes refaved fum money, with which he is prefentlie to lift fum men, making the pretext that it is to tak up his leving from fuche as bereaffis him; and he dois think by this means to draw the King from preferving the faid Papiftis this vinter, hoping, if the King invad him in the Bordour, to have refuge in England, if thair cum a force which he can not refift.

This is delyvred to me with promis of feerecy, bot I will keip no thing fecret that may be undewtifull to hir gratius Majeftie. All my request is, that no other answer be returned with Mr Forrett, bot that Bothvell, keping his confeience and dewte to his Prince clear, his aétions wilbe the moir commendabill, and that hir Majeftie wilbe lothe to interceed or give affurance to the King or Churche for perfons that hes fo oft violat thair handwrittis to boyth, mervelling muche what moved him fo

suddenly a requester for siche as not a moneth since he promised to destroy. I have also writtin a letter to the said Forrett to negotiat this matter as your Honour shall directe him; which letter, after yow have perused (pleis your Honour se closed and gevin to him). I trust your Honour shall find him saythfull in all respectis. I have bein so occupied since my cumming to Scotland, in seeking Bothvell, that I have not yit gone to Sanct Andros to speke Walwood; bot er I cum to England, God villing, I fall.

Thus, beseeching your Honour that my small indevors may be takin in good part, and desyring to be reformed as yow find me erre in any point, I pray the Lord preserve yow. This 6 of September 1594.

Your Honouris awin humill fervand,

Y. [JO. COLVILLE.]

I beseeche your Honour, till aftervard, that theis matteris go no forder nor to hir Majestie, and siche other of the Counsaile as hir plefour is and youris to import thame unto.

[*Appended to this Letter is a slip, which is as follows:—*]

The beholding of us, as I have oft written, indifferentlie for sum few monethis, fall work moir for your effecte nor th'assisting of any of us; for if theis Papistis mein trewly to Bothvell, then the King, for invy to him, will feruillie perfew thame, and so he will do your turn. If the King shuld yit wink at thame, then assuir yourself thai of the Religion, with your help, shall put him and all the Papistis to the point his Mother wes at befor; wharof upon my credeit have no dout. Other matteris I have writtin in a letter to Mr Henrie Lok. After the closing heirof, Mr Forrett, finding one of my letters, hes advertist me that he will do nathing, notwithstanding Bothvell's direction, bot as I fall direct him. Tharfor I have him to fend all his message be writ, or ellis if he go up, to go no forder nor Wair, bot thair to fend for Mr Lok, and communicat all with him.

To the rycht honorabill my Lord and
Mecenas, Sir Ro. Ceeyll, one of hir
Highnes honorabill Privy Counsaile.

COLVILLE TO LOK.

1594. TRES FIDELL. Unhappy .N. (Bothwell) is gone northe agane to th'Erlis, having with him in cumpany Boyde, Hakerston, Foster, Orrok, to sett down the counsaile of that unchristian warr. Since he took this cours I have been muche discouraged; bot the Lord, I hoip, fall fend boyth yow and me boyth, and all that dependis on his Hevinly Majestie, lycht out of darknes, for I see the good pepill now will admit no excus of the King if he go not on theis Papiftis, and I do think he shalbe the moir willing. And for my self, the best of the Ministry, finding me free of this apostacy, have lamented my cans to his Majestie, and I am in sum hoip to get favour, which I will no way accept except it be consented unto by hir gratius Majestie and my sweet honorabill Mecenas, to whom I have dedicat my service, for which I acquent your leger with all my proceedingis hearin. Mar, Dunipas, Tho. Eskine, ar the men, without my desyir, that laboris for me.

Bruit is evin now cum that the said Papiftis have a surpris upon Dundee.

Thair is gret apperance that th'one half of the courteouris shall thruff out the other; and the Chancellour, in all menis opinion, feames to be feared, and to have caus of fear.

Behold us yit a littil, for the fyir that hes bein long smuddred up amang us will now brust out.

Lett me hear my honorabill Mecenas plesour from hir Majestie in this treaty for me, and till we see what effecte it takkis, lett it go abroad. Thus, lying in a hid corner, as yow and I wer wont, *inter spem et metum*, I pray God preserve yow, this 10 of September 1594, from Edingburgh.

Your awin ever to command,

JO. COLVILLE.

This same day the Ministry and Burrowis have promesed, for two monethe, 500 hors and 500 footmen, and the Barrons 300 hors. His Majestie hes promesed larglie to keip the 2 of the nixt to the jurney;

bot allace, I fear unhappy Bothwell fall stay him; for Bothwell myndis to kyith on the Bordour, and so the King will be forced to feik him; bot in this cours he will be found unhabill to do as of befor, for all the honest men that followed him hes alrede left him, and he hes lost the favour of the pepill.

To my loving brother Mr Henrie Lok,
 Esquyer, to be opinned by my
 honorabill Mecenas.

COLVILLE TO LOK.

MY DEAR BROTHER,

Albeit this unhappy man have ruined him self (which yow oft feared), yit I pray yow lett our love and intelligence never decay, being fowndit upon so solid groundis.

1594.
 Sept. 16.

.N. (Bothwell) hes had, be meanis of theis Papistis, from whence he is returned, two gret interpris, th'one for possellessing his Majestie, th'other of murdering Sir Georg Home, boyth which have failled, and fundry of the fociattis apprehendit, of whom I fear many shalbe executed. Since he intred in theis courses, wemen and yoing boyis hes bene on his feeruit, for Mr Allane Orn,¹ a yowng creatour, is takin, and letters found upon him which hes opinned the whole mattir; so thair is fuche ordour takin hear in Edingburgh and Leyth as .n. (Bothwell) can never remane heir any moir, and Home, Ceffurd, Baclench, hes takin his landis, and protested to keip him out of Bordour, which is efy to thame to do; and hir Majestie wilbe sollicitid to renew hir proclamacions agans him, that be not harbored thair; wharby, allace, I think him lost.

This roid upon the Papistis I do think shall now hold, and the men of warre ar lifting daylie, the pepill glaidlie contributing for that service, and delivering all the ministeris of Edingburgh, of whom Mr Bruce and M^cKankoll² shuld go with his Majestie all the jurney, to be witnesse of his sincerite.

¹ Brother to the Laird of Mugdrum: he was executed on the 17th of October.

² Mr Robert Bruce and Mr Walter Balcanquall, two of the ministers of Edinburgh.

The Lard of Logy¹ is committed to the Castell of Edingburgh. It is suspected he shall die; and Yoing and Stroydd is also takin.

Now, in respect Bothvell is distressed in maneir forsaid, the Papist Lordis, hoping that he should, befor the 2 of the nixt, ether have possessed the estate, or with sum trowpes of horsmen joyned with thame, or remaning in this country, be incurfions to have drawn his Majestie bak agane, will be found disapointed, and to have no refuge but ether to fle to Kaitnes, or to imbarque and depart.

The bruit of strangeris arryving agane is renewed, bot I hear no certainty. Suirlie, me think, if Mr Forrett went over but 8 dayis, he culd mak yow certane.

Mr Tho. Cranston and Spot, who hes led my Lord to this miserabill cours, mainly Mr Thomas, (who sayis he can byid a year in England and Scotland with the displefour of boyth the Princes) vold be prohibited your Bordour, and a speciall letter written to Sir Jo. Shelby for the effecte. Yow know what enemie Mr Thomas is to your estate.

I pray yow use Mr Forrett kyndlie, for he will merit it.

And for my self, wearie not, good brother, to do for me, and remember the estate of my wyf and household to my sweet Mecenas, unto whom I am already so muche bound as I am ashamed.

Lett me know whidder I shall adress my letters for Mr Dane, for I shall be fory to omit my dewte to such a pretius ston. I trest, thoct I can not, the Lord shall reward him and yow boyth for your kyndnes, to whos protection I recommend yow, this 16 of September 1594, from Edingburgh.

Your awin,

JO. COLVILLE.

If Mr Forrett be absent, oppin yow his letter, and dow as he wer present.

To my loving brother Mr Henrie Lok, Elquyer,
to be oppined by my Mecenas.

¹ Wemyss of Logie, in Fife; he succeeded in making his escape: see the *Historie of King James the Sext*, pp. 251, 253; and *Calderwood's History*, vol. v. pp. 116, 173.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

MY WERREY HONORABLE MECENAS,

Since my hiddercumming, the whole Court labored ernestly with his Majestie for my releif, since .N. (Bothwell) had maid so unhappy defection, and I gittles tharof. Bot his Highnes vold not hear of me, fcearied tharunto by the Chancellour and Sir Georg Home ; all the rest, as the Duck, Mar, and the whole chalmer, being my frendis. In end, I fand moeyen that I have maid Sir Georg my freind, and so upon the 13 heirof my remission is past and signed by his Highnes ; bot in respecte his Majestie, for his honour, thinkis not meit, specially for the Chancelloris caus, that it fuld be yit knawin, I am commanded for sum few dayis to keip my self secreteit, as of befor, and willed to go to Stirling, to confer with Mar upon sum matteris, and tharefter to return to Edingburgh or Twedmouthe, till his Majestie may fatifie the Chancellour, (who presentlie is departed of Court, fearing this shuld fall out). I wes the rether bold to end this matter, for that I refaved that same day a letter from Mr Lok, signifying hir Majesties good lyiking that I shuld so do. I do tharfor humlie befeche your Honour that this be imperted only to hir Highnes and suche as she shall direct, lest the King hearing that I have utterit it, I be cassin agane in new disgrace. This small beginning, I hoip in the Lord, shall mak me habil to do hir Majestie better service nor in banishment I could, unto whos gratius Majestie my most humill affections fall be, as I have befor protestet in many letters.

If Mr Forret be thair, ples your Honour for his comfort schew him that he is in my remission ; bot command him he tell it to no other thair, as he vold not have us boyth diferedited.

How Bothvellis interpryfes be all discovered, and fundry of his men takin, I remit to my other, fend to Mr Lok ; fearing, allace, that Bothvell be now fully ruined, and that, in the examinacion of sum of his men, sum thingis be decoverd which may begin displefour betwix the King and Quenes Majesties ; for one Anstroydder,¹ hir Majesties cooper, is

¹ In the former letter, p. 128, the names "Yoing and Stroydd" are evidently a mistake in the transcript, for "one Anstroydder" or Anstruther, here mentioned.

apprehandit. Thus, befeching the Lord for grace, that I may with fuehe fidelite and thankfulnes remember upon hir Majesties bountifulnes in faving and fuftening me, fo unworthy a beeing, as in dewite I am bownd, I pray the Lord confound all hir foes, and be your preferver: this 16 of September 1594, from Edingburgh.

Your Honouris humill fervand.

JO. COLVILLE.

The honorabill young nobill man that wes hear hes done hir Grace and hir countrey gret honour, and for your worthy Leger, it is incredibill what he hes done heir for hir Majesties service, for he hes stollin the hartis of all honeft men unto hir, in fo muche as if any good werk be done at this tyme agans theis Papiftis, it is to be imputed to him.

In any cais, our Ambaffadoris must knaw nothing of my releis.

To the rycht honorabill my good lord
and Mecenas, Sir Robert Cecyll,
Knycht, one of hir Highnes honor-
abill Privy Counfale.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

MY LORD AND MECENAS,

1594.
Sept. 30.

All prais to God, his Majesty's vrath is fully mitigat, and I am agane to go to Stirling, thair to refave the publication of my peace. His Majestie thocht for his honour to have keped it secreit, and for fatiffaction of the Chancellour, bot nether the vrath nor grace of Princes can be keped secreit.

I have this whyill (lying obscure) found meanis to inter with Sir Georg Home, who hes promesed gret sincerite concerning the amite, desyring not to be trusted till he give proif, specially at this roid, protesting his Majestie shall vork seriusslie agans Huntley, or if he dois not, he will schaw whar the impediment is; and for that caus, hes desyred me to have one of myne with him all the jurney, by whom he will send me advertifment from tyme to tyme, if, by fuehe as hes his Majesties ear,

ether his Majestie may be brocht to a good confideracion, or if that be impossibill, that by thame we may knaw who be the impedimentis and lettis to his Highnes. If it may pleis your L., I think it not amiss; alway I will advance no forder nor yow directe.

My dealing now with your Honour shall be wth moir knowleg and credeit hear, and yit thair it must be the moir secreit that my lettres cum not in any clerkis hand; only of fervandis, faythfull Mr Lok to know or writ to me, what your Honour thinkis not meit yourself to writ or advertis. What can he render to that facred asylum that hes his lyif once, tvis, thryis faved under hir princie winges? The hafard of that lyif agane, yea, the los tharof, is bot hir Majesties dew, togidder with all the good offices I can do during my lyftyme. Other matteris I have writtin at lenth to faythfull Mr Lok; except this, that Ochiltry, for his peace, hes promefed to his Majestie the apprehending of Angus.

Thus I humlie tak my leif, committing your L. to Goddis bleffed prote^{ct}ion. The last of September 1594.

Your L. humill fervand,

Jo. COLVILLE.

I have geven to your most vorthy Ambassadoris a proje^{ct}e of the estate of Scottis matteris to be fend up, wharby your Honour fall see how matteris gois with us. His cairfull and bountifull dealing hear hes stollin the hartis of all honest men unto yow, which yow will see when tyme requires.

To the rycht honorabill my Lord and
Mecenas, Sir Ro. Cecyll, one of hir
Majesties honorabill Privy Coun-
sale.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

THE Convention began the 26 heirof, wharin as yit no thing is done; 1594.
bot his Majestie maid declaracion how he wes moved [by] my Lord Zouche Nov. 29.

to perlew theis Papiftis, and by him promefes maid of fufficient moyens in that aëtion; and that his Miniftry and Barons, falzeand of fupport from thence, promefed to furnis him. And now, fince he had done to the contentment of all honeft men, and had left behind his Grace fum waged men for keping good rewill in the cuntrey, his Majeftie defyred to fee how thai mycht be intertenit, for confulting wharon certane of the Counfaile wer apointed the 27 heirof. The 28 the Advocattis wer required to grant to a benevolent fupply, which I think thai fhall agre unto; bot as yit it is not concludit how long the Duck¹ and vaged men fhall remane in the Northe, nor how thai fhalbe fuftenit, bot all men belevis thair fhalbe a new taxation lifted for that erand.

The Chancellor and officiaris of Eftate ar werey ftrong, fearing, as is faid, that fum of the nobilitie fall feik to caft thame, which apperandlie can not be weill done prefentlie; bot no mention tharof as yit is maid in Convention, which I think fhall continew unendit all this week. The continwall heirfehuppis of Hieland men and Bordoraris will give mattir of gret confultacion for pacifeing thair infolence, if the particular cair of thair awin ftanding tak not away fra the Counfaloris the cair of the comun weill.

.Q. (the King) affures .a. (Marre) that he will mend thingis, and is verey angry that .h. (the Chancellour) lippins² fo muche in his awin frentlie, and not in him. Sum of the number whom .q. defyred to cum ar not cum, whiche I think fall ftay matteris till .q. ga to .a. his refidence, whiche wilbe fehortlie. Bot certenly thair is fuehe fyir kendled betwix .a. and .h. as without combuftion can not quenche. Affuridly .q. his mynd is changed on .h. and .g. (Sir George Hume), joynid inwardlie with .a. This is certane, bot I think my nixt fall fay moir fpecially.

It is faid that thair is a new Convention to be inffitut the 16 of the nixt, bot I am not certane tharof.

The report of Bothvell is divers, fum thinking him to be quietly in England, fum away to Flanders, and fum alleging he will agane interpryis. The laft hes no probabilite, for fen he has joyned with Goddis enemeis all honeft men hes left him, and repentis foir thai have offendit the Kingis Majeftie for his caus.

¹ The Duke of Lennox.

² Lippins—relies, trusts.

The Duck of Lamenbourges brother is curteisie useid, becaus he is coufin german with her Majestie. Thus for the present I humlie tak my leif, this penult of November 1594.

Your L. humill

Y. [JO. COLVILLE.]

To the rycht worshipsfull Mr Ro.
Bowes, Thefaurer of Bervick, Am-
bassador for hir Majestie.

COLVILLE TO LOK.

MY LOVING BROTHER,

At this last Convention gret bruittes wer of alteracion, bot it wes rether a mattir suspected nor intendit, for the Officiaris of Estate, perfaving sum nobillis cum without thair knowleg, suspected sumwhat wes intendit agans thame; wharupon siche hart-burning hes infewed as can not fail to vork gret mischeif.

1594.
Nov. 30.

Atholl and Huntley ar now knawin to be reconfaled,¹ which is lyik to mak gret trubill betwix Argyll and him; for Glenlyon, one of Argyillis, hes maid a gret heirschip on Atholl; and the young Erll of Murray, hearing that Atholl hes agreed with the murtherer of his father, hes fled away in the nycht, with Cluny, to his uncle, the Abbot of St. Colme.

This Convention is dissolved, and the 16 of the nixt institut for ane other, unto which tyme all will be quiet. I beseeche yow, good brother, hold me still in the good grace of my Lord and Mecenas, and to remember on the particuler fend tuiching a merchant of Wattlein Streat. And thus, longing to heir fra yow, I committ yow to Goddis protection. this last of November 1594.

Your awin assured

Y. [JO. COLVILLE.]

To the rycht vorschipsfull my loving
Brother, Mr Henrie Lok.

¹ Reconciled.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

RYCHT HONOURABLE,

1594.
Dec. 28. Gret schiftes hes bein maid to stay his Majesties journey to Stirling; yit this 28, at after none, his Majestie is riddin werrey privatlie of, of intention to be this nycht in Lynlithgo, and tomorow in Stirling.

.Y. (Mr Colville) is to ryid thidder the 29, for making intelligence, and putting the matter with Argyll to a point. .Q. (the King) is muche difquieted how to behave himself betwix .a. (th'Erle Marr) and .h. (the Chancellour); bot this dyat will declair to which of thame he will inclyne. .H. fearing, if .q. his cheif officiaris (who ar by his procurment brocht in) shalbe thruft out becaus thai have maid thame self puissant and .q. poor, that his awin decay must follow tharon. .A. (Marr) agane, hearing .q. to complene of his povertie, vold wis him to be in that estat that he wer nether burthinabill to yow nor his awin, and regardis no man's displeasour to prefer .q. This is the estate of the caus if it cum befor yow, as I think it shall, wharin .y. (Colville) fall do as he falbe directed.

Thus for the present I humlie tak my leif, from Edingburgh, the 28 of December lait 1594.

Your L. awin ever to command,

(No Signature.)

To the rycht honorable Mr Ro.

Bowes, Lord Ambassador.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

MY GOOD LORD,

1594-5.
Jan. 5. His Majestie remaned in Stirling to the 2 heirof. That nycht he raid to Linlithgo, and from thence to halking about Bigger; and in Tweddall his Majestie myndis to remane till the 11 or 12 heirof, and syne to return to Edingburgh.

.Q. (the King) vald have no thing done at London, left all fuld be

imputed to .a. (Marr); but he will have matteris endit at Vair, and certenly he apprehendis his miserie wery deeplic.

If thingis fall not out alway as I advertis, lett it be imputed to the ordinary incertanty of our conclusions (als weill knawin to your self as to any man), and not to me; and look for a certane mischeif among us, the delay wharof fall mak the event the moir dangerus; nether can the delay be longer nor his Majesties hiddercumming, parteis ar so in edge agans other. The comfort of all your freindis is to see .s. (Bowes) near by to comfort fuche as ar best worthy; bot allace, the number is few.

Argyll and his freindis ar mett, and ar in general termes agreed, bot no hartines; bot .y. (Colville) hath done so muche (wharof he salbe anwerabill), that ether none at all fall go over for your hurt, or ellis yow fall be tymuslie advertesed of thair number, and imbarking, and descent, to provyd for thame as yow think best, as also of thair confederattis within Irland; for the party that hes takin it in hand will go himself to the Isles, and travell with Donald Gorm McO'Neill and the principallis, and furnis me intelligence. He is a baron.

He assures me, nether .q. (the King), nor the other whom yow writ to in that mattir, ether can or meanis to do yow any good, for the principallis ar forfeited, and so will not obey. And fyne .q. (the King) thinkethe the fear of that mattir will move yow to agre to his other desirs. Tak, tharfor, what yow can get of .q. (the King), and I fall undertak to mak the mattir fuir, quhairsoever I be, or howsoever he do, God villing.

.G. (Sir George Home) marvellis muche that yow writ not to him, which I pray yow, if .avdin. (Queen Elizabeth) think good, mend this. I committ yow to Goddis proteccion, referring all to your discrecion, the 5 of Januar 1594.

For theis miserabill complantis of the poor, ane Assembly is infitut the 27 heirof; bot or that tyme it can not fall bot .a. (Marr) will ether prevail or succumb.

Bothvell is yit in Kaitnes, or with Huntley or Arroll; bot, the man yow knaw assures us, he is in Kaitnes.

Hamilton hes put his sone out of the Castell of Dumbarton, and placed tharin one Hamilton of Cochnoche.

The Mestres Nuris milk faled, and ane other is put in hir rowm. The Duck is to return. How fone that fall be, the rebellius will fitt down in Aberdeen.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

RYCHT HONOURABLE,

1594-5.
Jan. 23.

By the inclosed from the gentill man, who came also him self hidder, your Honour may persave what service he is myndit to do in theis Irifche matteris. He is presentlie gone to the Isles for that same effair; and if he can not stay the ouregoing of thame, he will caus M^cOndochy (who will be ane of thair cheif captans) keip intelligence with any trusty Irifche in that countrey; referring it to your judgement to confidder whidder it shall be better he keip intelligence that way, or to send bak hear his advertifmentis; wharupon, pleais yow, by your next lett me have your answer, and lett me know how this service will be lykied of thair, for except yow provyd this way to remeid that mattir, I see not that ether .q. (the King) or the other will tak gret cair of it.

As for our Estat matteris, the 20 heirof thre proclamations wer publesed, wharof two ar send; the thrid, being of the Eschekher matteris, I culd not gett: alway the tenour tharof is, for calling home all his Majesties revenus improfitably lett out, wharin all the old Officiatis of Estate, the Chancellour only excepted, ar discharged to fitt on suche matteris, and in thair place ar furregat, Mar, Montros, Leviston, Setoun, Priour Blantyir, Colluthy, Bafs, with sum otheris.

Gret stur hes bein hear about a blow gevin in Tolboyth, by Ceffurd, to Sir Jo. Ker; bot thair ar now assured to Witsonday. In lyk maner his Majestie is buseid to assuir Crawford and Master of Glammes, bot Crawford refuses, except the young Lord Glamme also subscrybe.

Bavery,¹ by means of .h. (the Chancellor), is lyk to escaip, and hes confessed a band, vrittin in cypher with Angus awin hand, bearing the deprivation of his Majesties coronacion of the Princee, murthour of fundry curteoris, and distribution of the offices of Estat and Session to Papifis. He promefis to exhibit the band, and to decypher it, upon

¹ Sir John Scott of Baluery (or Balweary), knight: see Pitcairn's Criminal Trials, February 11, 1594-5, vol. i. p. 346.

enlargement of fun dayis, and under gret cawtion. What his Majestie will do hearin yit I knaw not.

Sir Georg (who fill is villing to do all good offices) marvellis muche he hearis not from yow. Thus, my service remembred to my fweet Mecenas and yourself, I commit yow to Goddis protection, the 23 of Januar 1594.

Bavery¹ confesses that he wes the cheif traveller betwix Huntley and Bothwell, and wes with thame at all thair meetingis and bonding. This fame morning, Bavery is brocht out of the Castell to that fame hous in Tolboyth whar Fentry lay. His Majestie hes found gret falt with fundry of the Counsale that indirecylie semeth to favor him, for he began to deny all that first he confessed tuiching the band forsaid; and presentlie his Majestie is deliverat, ether by fair persuasions or question, to mak him agane affirm the thing onis said. The pardon gevin to Keycht and Cluny, who resortis opinly at Aberdein, togidder with the affirmacion that Huntley is quietlie thair, without danger, is much mislyiked. The pardon is not gevin nether immediatly by his Majesties self nor for the murthour of Murray, bott by my lord Duck, having commission to that effecte, and allanerly for the assisting of the rebellus in this last conflicte; yit it will be found, by our law, sufficient, for my lord Duck is sufficiently authorised, *et absolutio a Caesaris Majestate, omnia casi talia inferiora includit.*

Lett fun thing be in your letter concerning Junior (Campbell²) that may incurage him, which I may reid to him.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

RYCHT HONOURABLE,

Becaus I fand no gret matter fall out at this Convention, I continwit vritting till now. All that wes done in the Convention wes concerning Hieland mattaris. Argyll, in the Castell of Edinburgh, Grant

1594-5.
Feb. 1.

¹ Scott of Balweary: see p. 128, note 1.

² James Campbell, eldest son of Sir John Campbell of Lawers, by Beatrix, eldest daughter of Sir Colin Campbell of Glenorchy. In these letters he is usually styled "the young laird of Laws."

and Tillibardy, and Atholl, in Kineill, ar wardit. If .k.¹ (the Chancellor) and his cours prevaill, the former will not be suddently enlarged, bot .b. (Atholl) will find all the favour he may. The penult of the laft, his Majestie went in to the Exchecker Hous, and thair establisht the new Order of Exchecker and new Auditouris, secluding the ordinary officiaris, all except the Chancellor.

The laft,² ane bitter fight wes betwix the Master [of] Montros and Sir Ja. Sandilands, wharin Sir Ja. is schott, bot not deadly, fundry hurt, and tua or thre killed on ether fyd. The facte wes done evin at the door of Exchecker, whar his Majestie wes. The Chancellor and Montros war present, bot stood afyid till all wes done. This day, tryall is takin who wer the first invadaris, and it is found that the falt is in Sir Ja., fo I think the other shall contravaill him in credeit, the moir that the Chancellor is his friend.

Bavery, at the fuit of hir Majestie, is enlarged, and his lyif and land is assured him, upon payment of a certane fowm, and banishment. He has produced the minut of a bond vrittin by Angus, and signed with the said Angus, Huntley, Arroll, Bothvell, Kaitnes, the dewbill wherof, I think, er now is cum to your handis by otheris; bot the principall bond is abstracted, and I do think shall not cum to lycht, for Bavery had suche freindschip in Court, as his Majestie had litill or no assistance to try that mattir perfytilie.

Junior (Campbell) is returned hear agane, and defyris to know whidder yow will apoint any in Irland to refave his intelligence, or if yow will it cum this vay, after that any go ower; bot he trestis alto-gidder to impefche thair owergoing.

The Papistis still braggis that thai have from thence gret favor, bot that is of the foly of .n. (Bothvell), who indeid ostentis of his credeit thair without assurance. I thank the Lord that .y. (Colville) delt fo in theis mattaris as .n. (Bothwell) can not prove that any thair hes schewed him greter favour nor may be defendit with reason. Thus, my humill service to my fucit Mecenas, I commit your L. to Goddis protection, the 1 of Februar 1594.

.Y. [JO. COLVILLE.]

¹ “.K.” and “.H.” appear to be both used for the Chancellor.

² On the 19th of January 1595: Birrell's Diary, p. 34.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

MY LORD,

By the inclofed from Junior (Campbell) yow may fee his mynd and motions, wharin lett me be directed as .avdin. (her Majestie) thinkis best.

1594-5.
Feb. 5.

For our estate, his Majestie will remane sum few dayis at Mers, in Dunglas, Spott, Bail, Vachtone, and Setone. .D. () is not weill content with proceedingis, for thair fear that .c. (Huntley) have so muche favor, and that he is in this countrey. The Lord Forbes is ridden this day to his Majestie, with a complant that the Gordons have spoileit his landes, which makkis evry one jage that thair ar arrivat afresche to sum new mischeif; and it is no marvell, for thair is never one of thame for the last attempt punifed in body.

Bavery allegis that the principall bond, containing the cheif treafons, is in the Lard of Grants handis; bot Bavery him self is out of danger.

Thus for the present I commit your L. to Goddis blessed protection, the 5 of Februar 1594.

Bothvell is to depart the realme, and to imbarque in Kaitnes with sum moir of that societie, intending furst, as I am informed, to go in Irland.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

MY LORD,

The 6 heirof Hercules Stewart wes apprehendit besyid Dakeyth, with other two of Bothvellis, whar, at his Majesties commandement, I wes also, and at the first saved his lyif; bot as yit it is incertane whidder his Majestie will spair him or not. He was this day examinat, and hes deponed his knowleg of the bond, agreeabill with that which Bavery hes said; except that he denyis he knew anything of Grant, and hes affirmed Spott and Boyid to be the only two that hes led Bothvell to this unhappy cours. The Counsaie is now only bufeid upon the Irifche mattaris, how thair shall have fuir bondis of Argyll and Atholl for restrening the incurfions of thair brokin men, and it is not lyk that Argyll shall sone [have] releif.

1594-5.
Feb. 13.

Bothvell intendis to go out of the countrey. The Duck returns about the 16 of this instant from the northe. Sir Ja. Sandelands is lyk to mend. .G. (Sir George Hume) marvellis muche he hes refaved no anwser. Thus, for the present humlie taking my leif, I commit your L. to Goddis protection. The 13 of Februar 1594.

Your awin

.Y. [Jo. COLVILLE.]

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

1594-5.
Feb. 15. .O. (the Duke of Lennox), as I writ befor, returnis this week. .C. (Huntley) and his collegis have gevin in bondis to depart the cuntrey, all except .n. (Bothwell), who, notwithstanding, will depart, for he fears his brother Kaitnes that he betray him, becaus he is makand his awin peace.

I beleif yow fall find it trew that Bothvell meanis to Dunkirk, becaus Captane Foster is gone befor, I think it be to prepar his way. Pleis yow keip Junior (Campbell) his letter, to be our grownd, quho is presentlie heir with Prior (Argyle), and still affirmis to mak all good he hes promefed, and will be him self, in the latter end of Martii, in the Isles, for then is thair counsale to be haldin whidder thai shall go ower or not. Lett a freindlie letter be fend, to incurage him till we see ane approved service, wharof I put no dout; and lett this cours be the rether interteneit, becaus .q. (the King) and Prior (Argyle) takkis no thoct of that matter.

.K. (the Chancellor) and .p. (the Queen) ar weill agreit, which .o. (the Duke of Lennox) will think to be gret inconstancy in .p. (the Queen) when he shall hear of it.

.Y. (Colville) thanked God that .avdin. (her Majestie) lyiked of his quatuor (service), and that his Mecenas (Sir Robert Cecyll) is of the fame opinion. Referring all that mattir to his honourable Mecenas and your good remembrance; for wer not for the quatuor (service) of .avdin. (her Majestie), it wer a hell to live in parumper (Scotland). Eik theis few vordis to your cypher. The Eternell preferve your L. The 15 of Februar 1594.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

YOURIS of the 14 came in wery good feason for fatiffaction of Junior (Campbell), who, hearing the fame in prefence of your fervand, wes weil content, affiuring ws that the 23d heirof peremptoffly he fhall go to July (the Ifles) and Auguft (Iflandmen), and about the 6 or 7 of the nixt fend ws certanty of thair intentions this fpring, which he fall dres to the quatuor (fervice) of .avdin. (hir Majefctie), ether be detening thame at home, or making thair imbarking, arryvall, memberis, counfellis, and confederatis thair, forfein to .s. (Bowes).

1594-5.
Feb. 22.

As I writ befor, the Duik is returned, and his fervice allowed. By one trusty of that cumpany, I lern that the Papiftis had a purpos laitie to gett his Majefctie in thair handis, and the interpryifes quharof (who ar yit gefset at, not known) fuld have had 4000 crownes, of which Huntley fuld have furnefed 2000, and Arroll and Angus ech of thame 1000; bot Arroll wes, by meanis of his lady, diffuadet to joyn tharin withe thame, and fo that projeçt failed.

It wes and is fufpeçted that .q. (the King here) knew of that matter, and wes not unwilling; bot .y. (Mr Colville) his author fayis within thre daxis he fhall knaw his mynd, for he will offer to tak or kill .c. (Huntley) if .q. (the King) lyik tharof. As that is refused or accepted, by the next .s. (you) fhall knaw. Yifternycht Glenorchoir wes enlarged, and this day it is hoped that Argyill and Grant fhall alfo be fett to libertie; fo that aceufation whiche Baverie layid out agans Grant, alleging he had the other band contening the deprivation of the Kingis Majefctie, coronation of the Prince, and libertie of confcience, is lyik to fuffer no moir tryall.

Concerning .n. (Bothwell), he myndit to imbarque at Kaitnes, and hes fend ane, indeid, to Dunkirk, with large promefes to anoy .avdin. (hir Majefctie) if he had any fupport of fchippis or men. Intending himfelf to have arryved at Calice, and from thence to have gone to Gravelin, and be convoy of Captane Ferrell (brother to faythfull Ja. Ferrell) wnto Bruffelis. Bot, wpon what ocafion I knaw not, he hes with gret heft cummit out of Kaitnes, and wes fein about the 13 heirof

befyid Sanctiohnfton, in miferabill equipage, accompaneid only with two, and valking a-foot; and the man mentionat in fun of my former letters, whom his Majestie uses to try him by, is fend to explor him, so that I think verrelly one of theis dayis he shalbe trapped.

The Erll of Kaitnes hes takin remiffion, and is daylie looked for heir, wiche I thinke hes hesited th'other to depart.

Albeit the Papiftis have found cawtion to depart the Realme, yit no man thinkis that thair mind to keip promis; nether is thair cautionaris in any danger, in cais so be, for thair dwell in the north, and no ordor can be had of thame except a new preparation wer fend thidder, which is not eafy to be done.

Thair was a bruit bear that fun called Lentrons, of Sanctandrus, wer executed, partially in England, wherat his Majestie was greved, as wes gevin out; bot Wm. Home this day fayis to me, he heard no such matter of his Majestie.

Thus, for the present humlie taking my leif, I commit your L. to Goddis protection, the 22 of Februar 1594.

Hereules Stewart is executed, and one Sim with him; and fen fyne one Jo. Olt, servand to Bothwell, is killed at Dumfermling by Wm. Home, becaus he wes a feryiher of Da. Home, his brother, when Bothwell flew him.

To .S. [Robert Bowes.]
 Y Y Y. [Jo. Colville.]
 xxii Februarii }
 London, primo Martii } 1594.

KING JAMES THE SIXTH TO MR ROBERT BOWES.

1594-5.
 Mar. 1.

RIGHT TRUSTY AND WELL BELOVED, We greit yow well.

Forfamekle as, upon the penitent humiliation and promised loyaltie of our fervitor Mr JOHNNE COLVILL, togidder with the earnest sute of fundrie of our faithfull subjeets, respondents for him, We ar (notwithstanding his former misdeameour) not onlie moved to a princely pitie and com-

passioun, bot also, finding him acquyt himself verie honestlie in a service lastlie laid to his charge; to the end he may be encouraged to hold out that good cours without defectionn, till We may find some other commoditie fit for him, We have thocht expedient to cause peruse his compts, finding our selfe justlie addebted to him in ane thousand two hundredth threcore sex pounds sterling money; ffor pament quhairof We have turned and addressed him to ressaue it of our gratuite thair, most earnestlie praying yow, as ye wold do ws singular pleasour, both for discharge of our promise to him and releif of his present necessitie, that he, or ony having his power to that effect, may by your fauorable recommendatioun vnto your Sonerane, our dearest Susfer and Cousine, procure the speedy deliery of the said sowe, and to resave his discharge thairupon, quhilk salbe as sufficient as if it wer signed with our own hand; lyke as to the same effect We have generallie writtin to the Lord Thesaurair, referring partiular informatioun to your self, quhilk lettre we pray yow deliuer, and to return your answer heirupon with diligence.

And quhairas we are informed our said Seruitour is traduced thair, by some alleging, he returned nocht to ws the plate and money resaved by vertew of our commission, befor oure going to Denmark, his allowance in that, signed be the Auditors of our Exchequer, (quhilk at our command is sent vp), and our present affirmation of his sinceritie in that behalf, fall purge him of ony sic imputatioun.

It cannot seem strange to yow (who knawis sa weill the naturall of our people, and monyfold indignities attempting aganis us, specially by Bothwell) that We have turned our displeasour in compassion toward the said Mr John Colvill, nather can ony man think us thairby contrair, but rather like and conforme to our self; for to this hour (as ye know best of ony franger) We never pardoned unwillingly, nor willingly punished, albeit the frequent and insufferable rebellions of our nation have much more procured punishment nor pardon; but We have ever wished resipience and amendment mair nor obstinacy and indnration, as our clemency, in your eyes, upon thousands of our subjects, can witness. And We still hold mercy the ancre of our conscience, the stay of our esttate, the chief ornament and mark of every Christian throne, specially quhen it is extendit upon sic as for oppin offences are willing and

habill to make oppin amendment, as our said Servitor, without respect of hazard and slander, hath latlie done, in giving honest pruf of his unfeinyit repentance be his laite action agains some of the principalls who offendit in the same degree, as he did, yea, evin forder nor wes luiked for at his handis.

Concerning the Irish matters, mentioned in our dearest Sufter and Cousine's last letter, We have deferred to make answer thairunto, not for unwillingnes or dislike thair of, bot allanerlie uppon taking order with the Erle of Ergyll; who, before he be enlarged, or at least immediately thaireafter, fall receive our commandement that good freindship and neighbourhead be kept in that behalf, and such corrected as wold presume ony thyng to the contrary; like as We will omit no occasion that may strengthen and confirm the amytie betuixt the two Crownes.

Thus, perswading our self of indilyayd satisfactioun in the premisses, by your favourable meanes, and of all uther gude offices quhilk ye may lesfully performe, We protest to keep the same in gratefull remembraunce; committing yow to God's blissid protectioun.

At our Pallice, of Halirudehous, the first day of Marche 1594.

Your assured friend,

JAMES R.

To our right trustie and weilbelouit
Mr Robert Bowes Esquier, The-
saurer of Berwick, and Embassador
for oure derrest Sufter and Cousine
the Quene of England.¹

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

1594-5. THE 5 heirof his Majestie went to Stirling, and remaned to this pre-
Mar. 11. sent 11; and I went also, be commandement of .g. (Sir Geo. Hume),
and thair .y. (Mr Jo. Colville) hes prively spokin with .q. (the King).

Upon a motion maid by hir Majestie heir, to his Highnes, for return-

¹ The original letter (Cotton. MSS. Calig. D. 2) is much damaged by fire, but the deficiencies are here supplied from the copy in Rymer's *Fœdera*.

ing the Prince out of the Erl Marris handis, his Majestie is offendit; and it is thoct, the Chancellour (who now hes greteft eredeit with hir Majestie) is fuggefter tharof; which if it be tryid, shall turn to the said Chancelloris dilyik.

Their no thing yit of the Papistis Lordis imbarquing, notwithstanding the promefes maid; and be all apperance the Parlement will not hold, for the refons mentionat in my laft.

.Q. (the King) growis animat agans .e. [k?] (Cefford) and Nofter (Bucklowgh), as of befor I writ. I look for Junior (the Lard of Laus) daylie, of whom affuir yourself to have good fervice.

Bot that I fear yow ar upon your journey, I had a gret seereit to have writtin; and left it had fallin in other handis, I keip it up till I be certane of your refidence; and if it be your L. be absent, I will signifie it to my honourable Mecenas, whos kyndnes, allace! my meannes and inhabilitie can not mereit; bot I shall lak no goodwill nor zeall.

I have heirwyth fend the headis of my Lord Wemes instructions, and anfwerris to and from France.

.J. (Sir Robert Melville) fill infittis, as I writ onis befor, to be imployed to .nuperrime. (England), and to remane thair, for he fears a storm in parumper (Scotlande), and he promefis the favour of many .duo. (nobles of Scotland), and of .quinque. (the Scotifh Courte) thair to .q. (the King) his effecte, and thair hand writ of neid be, which I know he can not perform. In lyk maner, fun ar bufy to have .tuum. (the Bifhop of Glafcowe) imployed with .Es. (the Frenche King); for now .k. (the Chancellour) pleafis .q. (the King) only with the fchadow of .nuperrime. (England), thinking that .j. (Sir Robert Melville) thair, and .tuum. (the Bifhops of Glafcowe) in the other place, shall mak all ryip befor the harveft can cum. Bot thair is heirin a mattir which I vold rether fpek nor writ, and as I have faid befor, if I hear of your return, .y. (Colville) shall writ that mattir to his honourable Mecenas; bot in any cais, I pray yow that .y. (Colville) his letters go no forder bot to gratius .avdin. (hir Majestie), his honourable Mecenas, and fuch as he is affured of, for a caus which heir efter I shall oppin.

Now fence his Majestie hes writtin fo favorably for me, and that I find by .s. (Mr Bowes) his letters .avdin. (her Majestie) to be gratiufie

inclyned to .y. (Mr Jo. Colville), he thinketh he can not with lefs charg to .avdin. (her Majestie) be comforted, then of that which wold be bestowed upon otheris (if it came in his Majesties handis), who peradventure wold do litill or no good service bee any of the crownes; but .y. (Mr Colville) resteth upon that approved goodnes which he hes so oft felt, absteyning to insist moir nor is alreidy in his former contened.

.G. (Sir Geo. Hume) longed to heir fra .s. (Mr Bowes), and wiffed to know the natour and form of discharg which our Secretar gave thair of the gratuite, wiffing your L. to fend by the nixt a dowbill tharof. So I humlie tak my leif, praying the Lord preserve yow, the 11 of Martii 1594, from Stirling.

Evin as I was clofing up, this other from Junior (the Lard of Lavs) came to my handis, which I thocht good also to inclos.

The conspiracy of the taking his Majestie for 4000 crownes, mentionat in my former, is lyik to fall on the Matter of Gray, who is charged to go home; and that Pater (Dunipace) hes reveled by informacion of .qui. (Erroll).

COLVILLE TO [BOWES].

1594-5.
Mar. 17.

THE 15 heirof the Convention began, and dissolved that same day; wharin the Barons alleging that fundry articles wer gathered for thair hurt, to be confirmed in the Parliament, his Majestie resolved thame, by a long and eloquent discours, that thair wes no fuche thing intendit, finding gret falt with thair credulite to the contrary report. So the Parliament is decerned to be deserted till new and lawfull citation. The Ministry also gave in sum articles touching the Papist Lordis, for thair perfuit, in cais thai depart not at dayis assignid (as they ar lyik not to do), specially that thair fuirteis be called, and convict in the fowmes modefeit and fett doune.

The Lardis of Baeleuch and Ceffurd, being disapointed of the confirmacion of landis geving thame pertening to Bothwell, by deserting of the Parlament forsaïd, is muche greved.

Thair is gret spechis of displefour, and outwardly no good countenance,

betuix the Duik, Ergyill, and Mar on the anc part, and the Chancel-
lour, Glamnes, and thair followaris on th'other; which, in all mennis
opinion, will fall out unhappeley to fun of them.

Knawing of your abode thair, I will writ particularly in the matter
mentionit in my laft.

.Q. (the King) is begun affuredly to mislyik of .h. (the Chancellour),
and will reiteir with .p. (the Queen) schortlie, and remane with .a. (Mar).

.O. (the Duke) hes agane turned .p. (the Queen) funwthat upon .h.
(the Chancellor), who will give up .h. (the Chancellor) for infrument,
moving thame to propone the matter mentionat in my laft, which fo
diflefed .q. (the King).

I fall, God willing, this 17 have my peace (all thankis to God), and
his Majestys wrathe is fully pacefeid, wharby I fhalle habill to do good
fervice if I find favour thair, agreabill to his Majestys defyir in his laft
letters writtin for that effect. In any cais, lett nocht .y. (Mr Jo. Col-
ville) his letteris be fene bot whar his Meeenas and .s. (Mr Bowes)
thinkis good; for that being fave, he fhall affuredly ferve yow for greit
thingis. And he wold wis with all his hart to have bot one houris talk
with .s. (Mr Bowes); bot that can nocht presently be.

.G. (Sir George Hume) defyres that the note may be fend of the
natour and qualite of the difcharg whiche the Secretar gave laft of the
gratuite. So the Lord preferve hir gratius Majestie, my honorabill
Meeenas, your felf, and all that eftat, this 17 of Martii 1594.

Your awin affured fervand,

[Jo.] COLVILLE.

Mr John Colvill

xvii Marcii	} 1594.
Westm. xxiii ejusd.	
S. O	

COLVILLE TO MR JOHN CARY.

MY GOOD LORD,

Lak of matter worthy of your L., togidder with my abfens, and
privat displeasouris proceeding from my enemies, impefchis me to writ fo

1594-5.
Mar. 18.

oft as I vold and shuld; bot I am affured your L. will interpret all to the best, lyk as I fall never wifs the favour of God if I fall not merelit youris, all good offees lying in my power.

As to our Estate, the 15 heirof thair was a Convention of Estatis, wharin it wes concludit that the Parliament shuld not hold, becaus thair wer fundry matteris to be proponed tharin offensyve to the Barons and best subjec̄tis, and no apperance that any thing shuld be preferred for his Majestie commodite. Thair hes bein, and yit is, gret emulacion betwix courteoris, specially my Lord of Mar and Chancellor; bot being wyis on boyth handis, and his Majestie verey cairfull that no displefour shuld fall out fo near his awin perfon, thingis delayis from tyme to tyme, which is bot a smuddering up of the fyir, and no quenching tharof.

By instigacion of some lewd perfons, hir Majestie hear wes moved to sollicit his Majestie to tak the young Prince out of the Erll of Marris handis; which motion wes wery unplefand to his Majestie, imputing the blame tharof not to hir Highnes, bot to the fuggestaris, which, if thai can be knowin, will repent thame of thair foly; and the man that is suspected most is the Chancellour, for hir Grace hes herkened much to him sen thair last reconciliaion.

The Papist Lordis hes fownd fuirtie to depart in this moueth, bot no apperance that thai will keip.

Bothvell is yit in Kaitnes, and in wery ill cais. This is all for the present I can writ. Presenting my humill service to my good lady, I commit yow boyth to his blessed proteccion, this 18 of Martii 1594.

Your L. awin lefully to eommand,

JO. COLVILLE.

The bearar heirof being wery much informed of many matteris bear, I have conferred with him in sum thingis which were longsum to writ, tharfore, pleis your L., trest him.

To the rycht honorable Mr Jo. Cary,
Lord Vice-Governour of Bervik.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

MY LORD,

The 20 heirof thair wes a form of agreance maid betwix the Erl Mar and Chancellour, wharin nether of thame spak to other, bot boyth directed thair speche to his Majestie; the Chancellour purging him self of any thing intendit to Marris prejudice; which reconciliation, be all apperance, will ingener no moir love nor trest amang thame nor wes of befor, bot rether the contrary.

1594-5.
Mar. 22.

Argyll and Mar are riddin to Stirling, and thair Majesties, as is supposid, will follow in the latter end of this monethe, if new persuasions (intendit, as I hear, by sum hear) stay thame not. Huntley, by sending sum of his provision to ane schip, and Arroll, be intering the schip, maid semblant to depart the 15 heirof; bot the schip wes on ground, and nether of thame is yit gone, in so muche that yifternyeht ordinance is maid in counsale to charg thair fuerteis.

Refave Junior (the young Larde of Lavs) his awin letter, and commit that mattir fully to us, wharin I shalbe answerabill.

The mattir wes never so hoit betwix .a. (Marr) and .k. (the Chancellour) as it is presentlie, and .p. (the Queen here) is again degusted of .k. (the Chancellour). .Y. (Mr Jo. Colville) committed all his turns to his honourable Mecnas and yow, leving to trubill yow moir for this tyme, and committing yow to Goddis protection, the 22 of Martii 1594.

I pray your L., if any good can be done to .Jn. (Weynes¹) to furder him, for he is altogidder youris; and feing Junior (the young Larde of Lavs) is to mary his dochter,² he must [be] specially used to hold Junior (the yong Larde of Lavs) at this cours, wherfoever I be.

¹ Colville of Easter Wemyss.

² Sir James Campbell of Lawers (see note 2, p. 137) married Jean, daughter of Sir James Colville of Easter Wemyss, who afterwards became Lord Colville of Culross. Sir John Campbell, their eldest son, in 1620 married Margaret Baroness of Loudoun. In 1633 he was raised to the peerage as Earl of Loudoun, and in 1641 was appointed Lord High Chancellor of Scotland.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

1595.
Mar. 25. THE 23 heirof Mr Da. Lindsey took at Leyth one Father Mortoun, Jesuit priest at Rome, who arryved that same nycht in a Flemis barque; who, finding he wes apprehendit, took ane memoriall which he had maid, in form of instructions, and tear it with his teethe the best he culd; yit not so privatlie bot he wes perfaved, and the memoriall takin from him, and joyned agane in fuche fort as it may be red: the dowbill wharof, and of other letteris intercepted by th'Eftatis and fend to his Majestie, be my nixt shalbe sent, for presentlie thai can not be had. Bot of the said memoriall this is the fowm :

That he shuld find falt with the Catholique Lordis for that thai joyned with Bothwell, becaus thai had tharby incurred his Majestys displefour, who befor wes so freindlie wnto thame; alleging in that head, most fallie, gretar assurance of his Majestys goodwill nor is in effecte :

To reprove thame for distributing the gold fend for comfort of the afflicted Churche so inutillic as thai have done, specially wpon sum courteoris whom thai esteme gretest heretiques and abufaris :

That thai shuld purg thair self heirof to the King of Spanis Counsaie in the Law Cuntreyes, specially to the Nunce thair, certefeing thame no moir supply vold be furnefed befor that wer done :

That, above all, he shuld find most falt with Mr Ja. Gordon, that suffered the seid Lordis to fall in theis erroris.

He hes brocht with him ane tabernacle,¹ of the quantite of the palme of ane hand, of gold the platt thairof, and within the crucifix, with the history of the passion, fynlie vrocht in imagrie; which at the first he said Father Crichton wisfied him propyne to the Quenis Majestie hear, and then he changed, affirming it to be fend to Angus.—The man is a solishe bigot Papist, and hes bein abrod this 10 year: of the hous of Cambo, in Fife.

Yisterday one is cum from the Northe, assuring that Arroll at Peterhead, and Huntley at Aberdein, ar imbarqued the 19 heirof, and had

¹ "Tabernacle," or shrine. Calderwood describes it as "a jewel, with a crucifixe enclosed in a glasse."—(History, vol. v. p. 336.)

good wynd; Huntley intending to Denmark, and to go by Polonia to Italie; but whidder Arroll is bound, I can nocht lern.

Befor thair departour, in the Churche of Elgin, in Murray, thai hed mefs, and Mr Ja. Gordon maid the fermon, incuraging thame nocht to depart, with affurance of victory as of befor, if thay vold hafard.

This muche in heft, committing your Honour to Goddis proteccion, the 25 of Marcii 1595.

Angus is deadlie feik; the Chancellor is gone home; and Seffion, Exehecker, and all, is brokin w^p.

The Ministry infittis to have this preift booted, becaus he is lothe to confels fra whom, to whom, and for what effect he is cum home.

Of Bothwell, by the mean you knaw, I will hear the nycht or tomorrow.

The fuperftition and folie of the preift forfeid wes muche lawchin at. When he faw his Majestie tak the tabernacle, and that he muft needis part with it, he craved it for a grace anis to kis it befor he fuld want it.

The promiffis wer writtin tua dayis fince. Now this I eik, that this 27 his Majestie rydis to Stirling; the laft heirof hir Majestie follovis; thai ar to remane in Stirling and Fakland for tua monethe at left.

.P. (the Queen) is turned agane on .h. (the Chancellor); who, as you will heir of your awin fervand, utteris his ill mynd in oppin counfale to nuperrime (England), which I hed rether wer reported by otheris nor by .y. (Colville). The dowbill of the Secretary his difcharg, .g. (Sir George Home) feiketh fill at me.

To .S. [Robert Bowes.]

Y Y Y. [Jo. Colville.]

25 & 27 Marcii } 1595.
Westm. iiii Aprilis }

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

THE thrid heirof hir Majestie rydis to Stirling, to the diflyik of all that wold have takin the Prince out of the Erll of Marris handis. The 1595.
April 1.

Chancellour is this day with hir Majestie, and to returne bak this fame nycht to his awin hous. The copeis of the letters intercepted in Flanderis concerning Scottis effaris, and fuche as wer takin on this Jesuit, his Majestie had commandit Wemes to fend to your L. with his cusing Ja. Colvile; whom I will beseeche your L. to use with curtesy.

Thair is a commissioun gevin out to tortour and execut him, but I think the simplicitie of the man shall save him. He had thre thingis principally to negotiat, the finding falt with Mr Ja. Gordon in distribuition of the money and joyning with Bothwell; to perswad the Papist Lordis not to depart this realme; and to fend sum fitt instrument to the Nunce and Stephano de Juara, in Flanderis, to inform thame of the trenth of effaris.

Whidder the Papist Lordis be quyit away or not, I knaw nocht, bot, as I writ in my last, thair ar imbarqued; and for Bothwell, I think he is nocht gone, for the man we use in that erand is not yit returned, bot I look daylie for him. Junieur (Campbell) is about his erand, and advertesif me that gret travell is maid to mak concord betuix M'Klen and M'Oneill,¹ be mutuall mariages of eche of thair fonnas and dochteris, and all agans Irland. As to M'Ondochy, as I writ befor, who is the chiftane, he kepis him with his brother in law, for without him thair can be no gret mattir interpyfed.

I am myself to ryid to Stirling with hir Majestie, from whence I shall continew in my former intelligence; recommending, in the meantime, in all humilite, my suit to your good remembrance and favour of my honourable Mecenass, beseeching the Lord blefs the Majestie thair, his Honour, and yourself. From Haliruidhous, the first of Apryll 1595.

My peace is now proclaimed, and signed by the Secretar, foir agans his will; bot no reconciliation betuix his vncle and me, albeit I vold beg peace of all, nether fearing nor contemning, I thank the Lord, any subiect hear.

The Chancellor allegis, that I writ hardlie of him thidder, and of this estat, which he can proif; and wheras his Majestie hes nocht so good answeris from Flanderis as wes expected, he affirmis, that by my meanis

¹ Maclean of Dowart and Mac-Oneill of Dunivaig.

your estat is moved to cros the unatter thair. See, tharfor, I befeche your L., to this wrang imputation.

To .S. [Robert Bowes.]
 Mr John Colvill,
 Primo Aprilis }
 Westm. viii eiufd. } 1595.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

MY HONORABLE GOOD LORD AND MECENAS,

By letters from my Lord Ambassador and Mr Lok, I find still your indeferved kyndnes abownd toward me, specially in this last suit fend up be his Majestie in my favour. Bot in respecte of .y. (Colville) his present necessite, and that he hes dedicat him self to .avdin's. (her Majesty's) quatuor (service) principally (under th'enfeigneis of Mecenas), he is bold yit a litill moir to importun your Honour, as he hes moir at larg writtin to .s. (Bowes), which pleis your Honour refave of him, and to effectuat sum thing for .y. (Colville) his present comfort; for .k. (the Chancellor) so holdis .y. (Colville) abak from his awin moyens, that he is forced to infist moir erneftlie hearin nor otherways he wold; .y. (Colville) being alway deliberat, becaus he is already so far oblift, so long as he can have moyens of his awin, never to burthing .avdin. (her Majestie), not douting bot if his quatuor, past or to cum, be fownd utile, he shall be respectet accordingly.

1595.
 April 4.

Thus, committing all specialtes hearin, and of our Estate, to my other to .s. (Bowes), and informacion gevin to my cusing Ja. Colvile, whom pleis your Honour trest, I shall be a daylie beadman for the prosperite of your honourable Father and your self, befeching the Lord long to preserve your Honouris in all happines. From Edinburgh, the 4 of Apryll 1595.

Your Honouris humill fervand,

JO. COLVILLE.

To the rycht honorable my Lord and Mecenas Sir Ro. Cecyll, Knight, one of hir Majesties honorabill Privy Counfele.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

1595.
April 10.

FROM the 5 heirof to this present I have remaned hear, finding no matter worthy of writting till this day, that many reportis cumming of th'abode of theis Papifis Lordis, and that thai had privaly returned after imbarquing, I prayit .g. (Sir Geo. Hume) to affiur me of the verite tharof, who from his Majesty's awin mouth affuris me that none of thame shall byid bot with his utter difplefour, and that Arroll is without dout away, and or now at Hamburg. Huntley imbarqued, bot yit incertane whidder he gois; and Angus, a man of whom is litill accompt, unprovydit to depart, and fo obfeur at home as no privat perfon can be moir obfeur, fo his Majesty is wery ernift that he be nocht calumniat in this point; and for this Jefuit, albeit fundry vold perfvad his Majeftie to pitie him, be refon of his fimplicite, .g. (Sir Geo. Hume) is of opinion that he will not be faved.

This fame day thair is ane unhappy accident fallin hear in Stirling, for the Lard of Garden his childring hes invadit one called Bruce, of the Lard of Arthis hous, who wes at the tyme of th'invafion in Dunipas cumpany, fo thair is hurt a fpeciall freind of Dunipas, and in redding, thre or four of this town deadly vounded. This will put all Stirling-felhyr be the earis.

Quhat Junior (the young Lard of Lavs) is doing, by his awin letter your L. will fec, who indead, and Mr Jo., vold be remembred timuffie, for thair fervice is and will prove neceffar.

Bothvell, the 28 of Martij, departed from Yetland toward Dunkirk or Felze, and tharof, be advers wynd, to Calis or Deap, of purpos to go to Bruffilis; for your awin man Franc^l is with him, and hes apointed me to fend to the figne of Petite St Jehan, in Calis; whar he defyris to refave my directions from his Majeftie whidder he shall byid fill with .n. (Bothwell) or not, with promis that from thence he shall advertis boyth yow and me of all he can lern in that cumpany tuiching your eftate, or the faid .n. (Bothwell's) his intentions. Tharfor pleis yow lett my letter, heirwyth fend, be circumfpectly fend thidder, for thair may be good intelligence found that way.

¹ Francis Tennant: see pp. 156, 160.

Bothvell wes caft in to Orkney or he went to Yetland, and fortunèd to caft anker hard by my brother Mr Herreis hous (who hes the rewl of that cuntrey in the Erllis abfens); and hearing of Bothvellis name, he maid fuche preparacion as his abod thair wes werey fchort.

He hes ane fchip and flee boit. In his fchip ar Colonell Boyid, Captane Fofter, and fum fix gentill men moir, with marinallis; in the flee boit the Fleming and Inglish man that came in laft, and fum marinallis. This is the trew eftate of Bothvell.

The Erll of Orkney, ane yoing nobill man of good expectation, is procurand a commiffion to arrest fuch Inglish fchippes as fhall cum to fifhing in his watteris, as he can juftly charg with the piracy done agans him felf a thre yeris ago. I will give ee agans who this is fpecially meant, and I wold wis rether hir Majestie correctèd fuche as hes done him wrong, or that it fell out othervayis.

Thus I humlie tak my leif, committing your L. to Goddis proteccion, the 10 of Apryll 1595.

.Y. [Jo. COLVILLE.]

This Inne, in Calis, of Petite St Jehanne, is a logens whar all merchandis of Edinburg loges.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

RyCHT HONOURABLE,

I refer all matteris of eftate to theis of your fervand, who hes bein heir with me, and knaweth all that I know; only this much I advertis to be fecereit, that .q. (the King), underftanding, by advertifment cum to .y. (Colville), that .n. (Bothvell) is quyit gone, as in my laft wes mentionat, his plefour is to have him ferder tryit out, and will inploy .y. (Colville) to that erand, with commiffion in other matteris to .avdin. (her Majestie) be the way, anpill aneuch, thoct fecereit, and affuredly to the benefit of boyth, ellis .y. (Colville) fuld not accept the quatuor (fervice). It is tharfor requyred with fpeid that ane pafport and commiffion may be fend for .y. (Colville), for .q. (the King) will have him to go quickly, and fo prively as he can till he be at London.

1595.
April 23.

Heirin I humlie crave speid and secrecy. Nixt, the young Erll Murray being to go abrod for his instruccion, it is thoct he can have no place of favtie so good as in England. I am required to knaw hir Majesties gratius plefour tharin, and to have a pasport for him. He is a yong one of good expectation, and the feid of fuche as ever loved th' amite. Thirddie, Junior (the young Larde of Laws) is lyik to discharg his part so weill, as ether he will impefche, or tyulie advertis if any gois ower, and will in the latter end of this week affuir us what shall be done, wharof he hes at lenthe spokin with your servand and me.

This, in sum heft, I commit your L. to Goddis proteccion. From Stirling, the 23 day of Apryll.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

1595.
April 25. THE 28 heirof his Majestie is to return from Dumfermling, to remane heir till the middis of the nixt moneth, and hir Grace whar sche is, or in Edingburgh. The Prince is weill, notwithstanding contrar bruittis.

The bruittis be that Huntley and Arroll ar not away, yit St Georg biddis me for certenty affirm the contrar.

This lait displefour fallin out betwix Dunipas and Garden¹ is lyik to work much ill amang us, and to feparat .a. (Marr) and Pater (Dunipace), which indead will prove no small mattir, becaus Pater (Dunipace) wes he that culd do and did most agans .h. (the Chancellor). The displefour, also, betwix Montros and Sir Ja. Sandelands increassis, and thair presentlie gathered befyd Glesgo.

A mariage lailie contracted heir betwix the young Lord Glammes and Tillibarn his dochter² will walkin agane the greif betwix .a. (Marr) and .h. [e?] (the Master of Glamys), for .h. [e?] (the Master of Glamys) is marveluillie displefed tharwith.

I humlie pray yow that my letter to Frances Tenent may be hefted to Calice, and that the pasportis may be hefted, for I am agane comandit to mak heft.

I have many thingis I can not writ, which I refer to meting.

¹ Livingstone of Dunipace, and Stirling of Carden in Linlithgowshire.

² See page 160, note 1.

As for Junior (the young Lard of Lavs) yow will find him weil worthy, and th'other also. Pryor (Argyle), if he can not get licence to depart the realme, he will prively steill away, fo Junior (the young Lard of Lavs) is the moir to be maid of.

It wer boyth tedious and dangerous to writ all, and yit many thingis ar necessaris to be knawin, which as of befor I am forced to remit.

This I commit yow to Goddis bleffid protection, the 25 of Apryll, fra Stirling.

The 29 heirof thair is ane Assembly, wharin the excommunicacion of Boyd and Ja. Douglas wilbe follicited, becaus thair wer cheif instrumentis to persuad Bothwell to joyn with the Papistis; and for proif thairof, Hercules Stewartis depositions, and testimony of Bavery and Kynard, who ar charged to be present, will be used.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

THE last of the last, ane good number of the Ministry convenit at Stirling, and in the Chapell, with his Majestie, conferred concerning the excommunicacion of fuche as wer present with the excommunicat Lordis at the making of thair band; and after long reſoning, thair fand thair self juges competent, refaved witneffis, took thair othis and depositions, viz., the Lardis of Bavery and Kinard younger, and Ro. Scott, who war also present at the band-making. Theis thre in one voice testefeid Colonel Boyd, the Lard of Geicht, Gordon, and Ja. Douglas, Spott, to be the cheif persvaderis to that work. So upon the first of this instant thair convened agane, whar thair wes gret disputacion, fundry reſoning for the negatyve; that Spott in speciall fuld not be excommunicat, becaus he offred him self to repentance how sone he culd have save aetes; yit in end all thre forſaid wer condemned, and presentlie, or the Assembly dissolved, the same nycht the sentence wes red and pronounced by one Spottwood, minister of Cadder, in presence of the hoill Assembly; and evry one ordered at thair hame going to intimy the same in thair awin church.

1595.
May 2.

His Majestie beis heir at Lynlithgo this nycht, thair to remane till the 7 heirof, which is apointed for ane convention in Edingburgh, for order taking with the Hielandis and his Majesties revenus. All men convens wery weil accompaned.

This mariag of young Glammes dois much offend the Master, who takkis it to be done by th'Erl of Mar to his prejudice; and th'Erl of Mar and Dunipas ar at displefou, becaus Dunipas thinkis Mar, in this mattir betwix him and Garden, not so frendly as he expected.

.P. (the Queen) still infistis for to have the child out of .a. (Marr) his handis, which we fear shall breid much noy.

Priour (Argyle) yit can not be stayid, and tharfor I infist the moir ernitly with Junior (Campbell), who hes boyth assured your servand and me that he fall fulfill all promeses.

.Y. (Colville) is commandit to mak heft, and he is also pressed by young Murray to heft the pasport.

Bothvell is for treuth in France, and that is the caus that .y. (Colville) is so hefted.

The eternell God preserve gratius .avdin. (her Majesty), .y. (Colville) his Mecenas (Cecyll), and his dear .s. (Bowes). The 2 of May, fra Lynlithgo, 1595.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

MY LORD,

1595.
May 16. Thair wer so gret bruittis of mychty alteracions at this lait Convention, that I stayid to writ any thing till the verite brak up. Now God be blessed, I see no thing uttwardly bot quietnes, albeit the privat bruittis quencheis no thing.

The Erl of Mar is riddin home the 13 heirof. The Chancellour remanis hear becaus the Session is sett down. His Majestie, the 29 heirof, myndis to Lynlithgo, and from thence to Stirling, to the mariage of the young Lord Glammes, which is to be in the beginning of the nixt, whar hir Majestie also wilbe present.

The displefou mentionat befor betwix Dunipas and Garden is lyik to mak a gret ill will betwix him and th'Erl Mar, the succes wharof, if it be not prevented, I fear be verry tragicall.

Whidder foever his Hienes gois, I will attend to mak my ordinar intelligence, truſting that by meanis of my honorable Mecenas my former fuittis ſhalbe conſidered. For the preſent committing your L. to Goddis bleſſed proteſtion; from Edingburgh, the 16 of May 1595.

Your L. humill fervand,

JO. COLVILLE.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

.Y. (COLVILLE) hes fein the opinion of .s. (Bowes) toward his cumming up, and findis him ſelf marvelluſſie frated; for .q. (the King) being erniſt to have .n. (Bothwell) foecht out and chalanged in foren partes, charges .y. (Colville) mychtely to undertak that ſervice, as th'only thing wharby he can pleis him. On th'other part, th'opinion thair being contrarius, .y. (Colville) is marvelluſſie perplexed.

1595.
May 17.

Yit, ſince his cours is ſuch as .s. (Bowes) knaweth, the counſale from thence is a command, and .y. (Colville) will travill to ſee if, without utter offending of .q. (the King), he may ſchiſt that ſervice, or delay it at left. The intention of .y. (Colville) wes in that ſervice to have ſerved .avdin. (her Majeſtie) with gret intelligence; for, going to fundry princes, whar none of youris hes muche credeit or acceſs, upon ane negociacion from ane other prince, he ſuppoſed his travell fuld be as frutfull to .avdin's quatuor. (her Majeſty's ſervice) as to the other, wharin he dothe alfo mean wery uprychtly. Alway, ſen yow ſee I have no thinking bot as cummis from .avdin. (her Majeſty), lett me in heſt, by the nixt, underſtand the particular cauſes why .y. (Colville) his upgoing is miſlyiked; and in the mean tyme, ſen my eſtate is at this Witfunday ſuche as I have writtin fundry tymis, I befeche your L. deall for me in ſuche fort as yow think fitteſt for my releif, ſpecially that in mattir wharin I have his Majeſty's goodvill hir Majeſtie may be moved to tak that upon hir Highnes, and to alleg it is alredy payed, for thair ar ſo many heir to beg at his Majeſtie, that .g. (Sir George Home) being of ſo gentill natour that he can ſay no man na, except he be certefeid that my dett is alredy payid, I fall not

faill to be difappointed, and it fall fall in thair handis that never fall think nor fpek weill of that eftate, for which cauf I have faid alreidy that I am intered in payment, and ordour to be taine with fum merchantis thair to whom I am addetted.

I befeche your L. that above all that I may be kepced in the good grace of my honourable Mecenaf, that all my aëtions may be agreabill to his mynd and direëtion, and that all thingis be fecreit. This I comit yow to Goddis bleffed proteëtion, the 17 of May 1595.

.Y. [Jo. COLVILLE.]

Sic writtis as wes to Frances Tenent, if thai be not away, I pray yow let be returned.

The copy of the Commiffion to fereche Bothvell in any Chriftian nation whar he may be found, I fhall fend with the nixt, wharby yow will fee the erniftnes of .q. (the King) to have him ether imprifoned or delyvered.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

RYCHT HONORABILL,

1595.
May 27.

Albeit the laft Convention diffolved by owtward fchew in peace-abill maneir, yit in effeëie it will prove that former emulacions ar not quenched, wharof I will writ no moir till I try forder.

His Majeftie wes at Fakland, and this day is returned to Stirling. The 28 hir Majeftie gois thidder alfo, and the firft of Junii beis the mariag of Glammes and Meftrif Annas;¹ which hes agane quikned the emulacions forfaid, the Mafter² thinking (albeit moft injuftlie) that Mar hes praëtefed that allia to his prejudice.

The 28 is affigned to the Wardans and cheif Barons of the Bordouris to apper at Edingburgh befor the Counfale, for fettling of matteris thair, which ar lyik to grow to fum diforder, be reafon of fundry deadlie feadis thair; as betwix Baclench and Armftrangis of Ginglis, betwix

¹ Patrick, ninth Lord Glamis, married Lady Anne Murray, eldest daughter of John, first Earl of Tullibardine.

² Sir Thomas Lyon of Auldbar, Master of Glamis.

Johnfon and young Maxwell, who now begins to hunt the feilds. Bot his Majestie will not be present. All the forsaide myndis to cum wery weill accompanied. Sundry Barons of Eft Tevidail, as Litillden, Farnherst, Greinheid, Hunthill, Huntdeleie, mislyiking the greatnes of Ceffurd and Bacleuche, have offreid thair service, under his Majestie, to .o. (the Duke) and .a. (Marr), promesing to be a contrepois to the said two Lardis, being protectēd in cais thai shuld pursue to ower highe materis. This is *in fieri, non in esse*. As it succedis, my nixt shall sehew.

By a letter from Mr Jo. Ard, the Irifche matteris yow will know.

And in lyk maneir, by one from the Lord of Wemefs, your L. may see how I am pressed to this jurney; wharin, albeit I remane in my former resolution, yit, since one will be employed thidder for privy conferance with hir Majestie, and dealing in fundry affaris, it is weill to be advyfed whidder it be best that service fall on your frend or fo.

And as to .y. (Mr Jo. Colville) his particular, .q. (the King) thinkis no thing but he hes sped in part or whole; and yow may be weill assured, if any of .y. (Colville) his unfrendis be imployed, he shall be disapointed. Tharfor advys weill heirin, for .y. (Colville) hes no thoct bot as commin from .avdin. (her Majesty). The gratius Lord of lordis preferve yow all, this 27 of May 1595.

.Y. [JO. COLVILLE.]

Mr Prymros having ado for him self thair, will at lenth sehew thingis which I can not writ. We do marvell that we heare not of Ja. Colvile.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

MY LORD,

Becaus now Archibald Prymros is evin on his jurney, I remit all secreittis, and my awin particular, to him, only tuiching this, that it may be alleged sum thing is alredy furnesed by your L. thair to merchantis wnto whom I wes addetted upon his Majesties first recommendacion.

1595.
June 28.

All thingis hear ar in suspicius quietnes, for the ill will betuix .a. (Marr) and .k. (the Chancellour) increffis muche, and can not long continew

without destruccion of th'one or other. And this lait accident, the 24 heirof, of Da. Fosteris slauchter at Kirkliston,¹ who wes servand to the Erl Mar, perpetrat by Dunnipas and young Arth,² who ar thoelt to be foyistit out to that work by .p. (the Queen), .k. (the Chancellour), .e. (the Master of Glanys), and the rest, hes fett all on fyir; his Majestie promeing to Mar, if he will persew thame be order of law and justice, and not seik revenges upon innocent persons, that his Grace fall affist and manten him. So I think Mar will first use form of law, and syne his power, as he did agans Lufs; bot the secreteit of this and all fall cum with my gossef, Junior (young Laws). His advertifinentis ar heirwyth fend, and young Morrayis letter.

His Majestie ryidis this day to Fakland, and will nocht return hiddir till the middis of the nixt monethe. Affuir your self thingis ar be all apperance at the period of trubill amang ws; and .q. (the King), who studeis to keap himself indifferent betuix .a. (Marr) and .k. (the Chancellour), must sehortlie appear agans th'one and for th'other. Thus I humlie tak my leif, committing yow to Goddis proteccion, this 28 of Junij, fra Stirling, 1595.

.Y. [JO. COLVILLE.]

Archibald knaweth my mynd in all faving in ane thing, which I delyvered to your self at our last departour, and that I wold wis he nor none other knew, bot fa many as we agreed on.

The 4 heirof is affigned to all my Lord Marris frendis at Stirling, viz., Lenox, Morton, Argyll, Tilibarn, Glammes, who I trest fall be agreied, with Crawford and other inferior Barons, to consult upon the reveng of this lait slauchter; at which tyme, it may be, other consultation be also.

(Indorsed) Mr John Colvill.

Stirling, 28 Junij }
Grenewich, 6 Julij } 1595.

¹ David Forrester, burgess, and one of the bailies of Stirling. (Hist. of James the Sext, p. 347. Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, vol. i. part ii. p. 351.)

² John Levingstone, younger of Dumipace, and John Bruce, younger of Airth.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

MY HONORABIL GOOD LORD AND MECENAS,

Wheras his Majestie wes to employ me in sum service thidder, and to sum other Foren nations (wherof the berar can weill inform your Honour), I am dissuadit to accept the same service, for such causes as he lies to schew. And the said berar¹ (whos fidelite and discretion is weill knawen to my Lord Embassador) repairing thidder, I presumed to recommend to your Honour, as one that can and will inform as weill of th'estate of our realme, and apperances of issues of all emulacions among us, as any of his colt [culture] within our nation; committing also sum specialiteis to him which I durst not to paper nor to any other commit. Lett it, tharfor, be your good plesour to trest and use him as myself, for he is my *alter ego*.

1595.
July 2.

By him agane I yit desyr humlie to knaw, in what form I shall most to your plesour follow out my intelligence; for since to your Honour principalie my weill indeavouris ar definat, I desyr to be directed only by yow, as one waned² from his awin opinions.

And last, since I have procured his Majesties recommendacion in a dett long awand,³ which will inhabill me to the service of gratius .avdin. (her Majestie), I hoip, by your usual and experimented kyndnes, to speid tharin, since with lesf cost to hir Majestie I can not be helped. Bot leving to trubill your L. moir heirin, I remit the rest to th'informacion of this berar, committing your Honour to Goddis protection. From Stirling, the 2 of Julij 1595.

Your Honouris humill fervand,

Jo. COLVILLE.

To my honourable Lord and Mecenas
Sir Robert Cecill, Knight, one of hir
Majesties honourable Privy Coun-
sale.

¹ Archibald Primrose. See pp. 164, 165.

² Weaned.

³ See the King's letter, *supra*, p. 142.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

1595.
July 5.

This day convened at Stirling my Lordis Duik, Ergyll, Morton, the Lardis of Tillibarn, Keir, Clakmanen, Kers, Sanquhar, Wemeis, Pomeis, Kileruth, Towch, Tilliallen, Ady, Clefeh, to the number of 30 at left of Barons. The Erl of Mar exponed his caus to thame anent the lait murthour of his fervand, craving thair counsale, and certenty if thay wold affist him. All in one voyce promefed affitance, to the hafard of lyif, land, and all, provyding he wold first feik the ordinar form of law agans the malefactoris; wharunto his L. hes agreed.

And for the corps, thay have apointed the 12 heirof to bring it from Lynlithgo (whar it lyes) to this town to the buriall. The principallis of the party adverfar, namly, Dunipas, beginns to decry [deny?] thay knew the defunct wes fervand to the Erl of Mar, affirming thair knew not of his slawchter; yit we hoip thair fall stay the buriall to their power, becaus the corps is to cum throuch thair boundis. Snirly, as I writ long ago, when this mattir fell first out betwix Dunipas and Garden, I see gret mischeif to follow on it, which no dout is at hand, and as evry particular tharof shall succed, I shall advertis.

His Majestie lyes at Fakland, which will be his residence till Lambes, except it be fun od tymes to see hir Majestie and the Prince, who takkis weill with his waning.

I refer specialites to the cumming of quondam (Mr Archibald Prymrose); and thus I commit your L. to Goddis blessed protection. From Stirling, the 5 of Julij 1595.

.Y. [JO. COLVILLE.]

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

1595.
July 7.

SEN my last I can writ no new thing, for all dependis upon the event of this mattir of the buriall, the 12 heirof.

Tomorrow .a. (Marr) rydis to Fakland, and is informed that .q. (the King) will have him to reconceill with .k. (the Chancellor); and as any

thing fallis out in this or the former mattir, worthy of writting, I fall advertis.

All particularis I refer to my gossep his arryvall, who peremptorly begins his jurney the 8 heirof. Thus, committing your L. to Goddis blestid proteccion, the 7 of Julij 1595,

Your L. awin assured

.Y. [JO. COLVILLE.]

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

MY LORD,

Thinking from day to day that .quondam. (Mr Archibald Primrose) fuld have interit his jurney, I abstened to writ larglie, becaus unto him I had committed all, and had found him ane erand to inform that which with furtie can not be writtin; so yit to him I must refer all, thinking affuredlie he fall be thair within thre dayis after the dait heirof. I trefit in the mean tyme this shall be my excus, in cais I be thoct not so larg as I wes befor, for I defyr not to live longer nor I fall be constant in thingis promesed, wharunto God and yow ar my only witnes, which I defyr only communicat to such as we agreed upon; and for .quondam. (Mr Prymrose), he knaweth all my hart, and is my hart; bot that I reserve, as my trefour, lett the Lord work what he will, from him and all otheris.

1595.
July 14.

Our present estate is, The 12 heirof, the Erll of Mar, with a 5 or 600 gentill men, came to Lynlithgo and brought away the corps of the murdered persone.¹ Many terroris wer gevin, and the Lord Home, Ceffurd, Bacleuch, at Edingburgh, and the Lordis Leviston, Fleming, and Elphyfion, our nyctbouris, warned and convened many frendis; bot, blestid be God, thair wer not fein.

The murthour of the man (the confidence at left the murtheraris

¹ See pp. 162, 164. The Earl of Mar, as stated in the Historie of King James the Sext, p. 347, "assembled his friends, and came with displayed banners, and carried the dead body through the lands of Levingstone and Bruce to Stirling; and caused make the picture of the defunct on a fair canvass, payntit, with a number of shots, and wounds," &c.

have to bear out that mattir) will prove to cum from .p. (the Queen), .k. (the Chancellour), and .h. (Glamys), thinking tharby to disgrace .a. (Marr), for it had furnist ane gret argument agans him of weaknes and inhabilitie to defend and preserve young .q. (the Prince), if he had not bean habil to bear out his just caus agans so mean competitouris. In the mean tyme the mattir is at this point: .Q. (the King) is at Orleans (Fawkland), and .a. (Marr) is laitlie cum from him, having his promis that he fall cum to London (Stirling) befor he go to .vair. (Edenburgh). Yit .f. (Hume) and .g. (Sir Geo. Hume) have bene at him, and, as I do hear, .g. (Sir George) is gone agane, to persuade him cum to .vair. (Edenburgh) in behalf of .p. (the Queen), (who still is thocht diseased); and if he cum to thame, thair intention is, partlie with fair meanis, and if it fail, with ether subtilites (wharin .k. (the Chancellour) and .i. (Linclouden) the principall blaweris of the bellis under hand, will appear neutrallis), to persuade him to tak young .q. (the Prince) from .a. (Marr). This is in working presentlie, the succes wharof, and other matteris which I can not writ, I commit to .quondam. (Mr Primrose), remitting my particular also to him, being fory from my hart that the malice of my enemies forcis me to that necessite, as I must importune thame to whom alrely I am moir oblist nor my mean laboris may merit. Thus for the present, my humill service presented to my sweit and honorable Mecnas and to your self, I besече the Lord long in helth and felicite to preserve our .avdin. (her Majestie). The 14 of Julij, fra London, 1595.

.Y. [JO. COLVILLE.]

Yow fall have thair anone .k. (the Chancellour) his deputie, whose grand fall be no wers confiderrit, and the trew estate of this cuntry from such as will not defave yow, the better understud that .quondam. (Mr Primrose) be hard or not, or much be done with him, bot .quondam. (Mr Primrose) in wery secret maneir must be used. Yow know his honestie, knowleg, and love to .nuperrime. (England).

For Junior (young Laws), think not that he will tyir, for by him yow shall have the certenty of the Irifche matteris, and he will, as he hes begun, continew, for the affired hoip he hes of .s. (Mr Bowes) his

honestie; as, the Lord be blessed, many, and of the best number of .par-
unper. (Scotland) hes, incurages him in sic fort as your awin servand
can testifie.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

RYCHT HONORABLE,

The 17 heirof his Majestie came to Stirling, albeit gret instance
was maid at Fakland to his Majestie to cum first to Edingburgh befor
he came hear. On Sunday the 20 heirof the Erll of Marris young sone
beis baptesed, whar his Grace beis gossep; and so on Tyfday or Munnis-
day nixt tharefter he myndis to Fakland, whar hir Majestie is apointed
to meit him, if her helth will permit; bot thair is no gret apperance that
sche is ether willing or habill to go thither, the place being more incom-
modious nor at Halerndhous for persons diseafed. And upon his Grace
going to Edingburgh, or hir Majesties cumming to him, dependis the
hoip of such as be inclyned the one and other way, albeit thair be
no difference nor contrariete amang thame self. Yit, according to the
varietie of our ingyns, growndit on our awin particularis, we ar in con-
trar and different opinions, sum assisting, sum resisting the chang of the
Prince from the place and persons whar he remains; wharin we hear
for certaine, that his Grace hes said resolyvidly to hir Majestie, at thair
last departour, and confirmed the same by his last messager, that he will
have no chang tharin.

1595.
July 19.

This lait inurthour quikins matteris, for the actouris tharof thinkis,
by such as hait th'Erll of Mar (who presentlie hes the rewwl of all effaris
amang us), to bear out thair turn; yit the odiousnes of the cryme, and
exelamacion of the Ministy, who the nixt Sunday ar to proceid to
admonition agans the young Lardes of Arth and Dunipas, and their
complices, at the Churches of Stirling, Arth, Falkirk, and Lynlithgo,
puttis thame to great thinking how to colour and disgyis the mattir.
And the Erll of Mar proceadis no otherwayis nor his Majestie commandis
him, in pursuait of the criminallis, nor in no other actioun, thinking tharby
to win his proces boyth agans th'one and other.

Thair is many thingis hearin which I can not writ, which I have com-
mitted to .quondam. (Mr Archibald Primrose); and of thingis fallin out

fen his departour, I have writtin to him in his cypher, which in his abfens yow may flyik up, and he will decypher at his cumming; fpecially that .a. (Marr) hes command of .q. (King of Scotland), in cais he do any thing at .k. (the Chancellour) or .p. (the Queen) his defyr, to his prejudice, for taking from him any quatuor (fervice) that he hes, that he fhall difobey, and this .a. (Marr) hes figned and commandit to him expreffie; bot if this be knawin, .a. (Marr) is undone. The ref to your faythfull fervand and to .quondam. (Mr Primrofe), leving to think or fpek any thing bot to ferve with fuche zeall as lysis in my mean power, I do my humill fervice to my honorable Mecenas, committing your L. to Goddes proteccion, the 19 of Julij 1595, fra Stirling.

.Y. [JO. COLVILLE.]

Of Indermarkeis apprehenfion at Edingburgh by St Colme and Cluny, your L. hes hard or now, and with him one that wes bittureft agans the poor Erll of Murray.¹ A commiffion wes granted this day hear for thair execution.

Argyll is convalefced, and Junior (young Laws) will omitt no good office when occafion required, and he defyris no credeit if he be not firft advertefar of any interprys that can cum from Julij (the Ifles) or Auguft (Iflands men). Yit agane the Lord preferve yow.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

RYCHT HONORABLE,

1595.
July 24. The 25 heirof his Majeftie removes from hence to Fakland, whar he myndis to byid till after Lambes, and about the 8 of the nixt to return heir agane, and from thence to Inchmirren, to his hunting. Gret perfuafions ar maid to draw him to Edingburgh, partlie to fee hir

¹ James Innes of Innermarkie, in coming from the North in company of the Laird of Mackintosh, and one Angus Williamson, were tracked the whole journey by Lord St Colme, and Crichton of Cluny. On reaching Edinburgh, they were, on the 18th of July 1595, apprehended as partakers in the murder of James Earl of Murray and of Patrick Dunbar (who were slain at Dunibristle in 1592); when Innes and his fervant were immediately condemned, and beheaded in the common market-place of Edinburgh, on the following day.—(Birrel's Diary, p. 34; Historie of King James the Sext, p. 347.)

Majestie, who is thocht to be diseased, partlie the Counsaile insisting that his Grace wold ons fitt with thame befor thair vacans, which is at hand, for ordoring of all thingis till thair nixt meting; bot I hear not that his Majestie myndis to go thidder, bot rether that hir Highnes fuld cum to him and thair boyth, and I think at lentle hir Grace fall mak the first obedience. If .q. (the King) can be moved to see .p. (the Queen) at .vair. (Edenburgh), thair think, ether be flicht or might, to perswad him agans .a. (Marr); who indead now, to all mennis apperance, is grettest in favour, if he puls his fortoun fordwart.

.K. (the Chancellour) spekis much to .a. (Marr) his prais when he fallis in purpos of him with .q. (the King); bot under hand to .p. (the Queen) he has fworn and signed that he shall never agre with .a. (Marr). So if .q. (the King) pres apointment betwix .k. (the Chancellour) and .a. (Marr), .k. (the Chancellour) fall decypher him self anone.

As I writ befor, .a. (Marr) hes be writ assurance to difobey, in cais .q. (the King) fall in thair handis that fall force him to do any thing to .a. (Marr) his prejudice; bot this is verey secreit. This matter of Dunipas, as I writ, ever will heft a mischeif; for now, about the 24 of the nixt, the Erll of Mar charges him and his compleces to underly the law, and boyth persewaris and defendaris will appear, with all thair frendis. Arth and Dunipas think to have Elphinston, Fleming, Levistoun, Hume, Celfurd, Bacleuch, the Counsaile and Seffionaris, thair frendis, and .p. (the Queen) also. The Erll Mar fall, God willing, be no les nor 2000 gentill men, which ar alredy in catologe, with the favour of Edingburgh, and sic assurance of .q. (the King) his goodwill as word and writ can mak: this is certane. The Ministry, also, is begun to proceid agans the said murtheraris with thair censouris.

Hear ar presentlie sum Commissionaris from the last Generall Asssembly (which was at Montros), to report to his Majestie thingis concludit thair, and to requyir his consent in sum matteris tuitching the benefit of the Church, which can not tak effecte except his autorite be interponed. The goodman of Monimusk and Mr Richert Douglas wer hear, deling boyth with his Majestie and Commissionaris, for Angus; who offeris to find caution, to subscreyve, and never to swerve agane. Sum, curteouris and ministeris boyth, pitie him, bot diversly; the ministeris thinking him

the left malitius Papift of all, and not bloted with murtheris, as Huntley is; the curteouris only wold have him refaved to be a preparatyve for bloody Huntley. I have also writtin at lenth to .quondam. (Mr Archibald Primrofe), by whom your L. will knaw all writtin to him which is hear omitted.

I recommend my eftate to my honorable Mecenas, and to your favorabill labouris, and my humill fervice to boyth. The Lord preferve yow, this 24 of Julij, fra Stirling.

.P. (the Queen) is not as thai pretend to be, which .q. (the King) begins to perlave. If thair wer no moir bot that, it wer aneuche to mak mifeheif aneuche.

COLVILLE TO GEORGE NICOLSON.

1595.
July 24. This morning his Majestie, hearing that fundry ar convened at Edingburgh, of intention to intend funn chang, he hes takin ane manfull resolution that he will go thidder this fame day, to see what thai mean; fo lett my letters go throuch, bot fend this (.y. with all the rest, God willing, fall hold,) contened in my former, specially the vairand gevin to .a. (Marr), in cais his unfrendis caus .q. (the King) do anything agans his hart. Put all away in heft, I pray yow. This is ane hour after the dait of my former, this fame 24 of Julij 1595.

To my trest frend Georg Nicolfone.

COLVILLE TO GEORGE NICOLSON.

1595.
July 29. YESTERDAY, the 28 heirof, the Erl of Mar raid to the Gask, a hous of Tillibarns, whar his Majestie is presentlie, and will remane thair funn thre or four dayis; from thence to Fakland agane, to the buk hunting for 14 dayis, whar hir Majestie shall meat him; and so thai cum boyth to this town. When .p. (the Queen) cummis to London (Sterling), thai ar lyk to byid thair longer nor is looked for.

The Erll of Marris day of law holdis fordwart the 19 day of the nixt. How curagiullie his Majestie behaved himself thair, contrar all thair expectacion, yow know better nor I. This much in heft.

I think, God willing, ons the nixt week to fend yow fum moir newes; and I trest or now .quondam. (Mr Archibald Primrose) be at his wittis end. I pray the Lord prosper him, and preserve yow, this 29 of Julij, fra Stirling, 1595.

Your awin assured.

[Jo. COLVILLE.]

Evin at the closing up heirof I refaved your note, wharof I thank yow. Yow may be assured .q. (the King) his hart is tyid to .a. (Marr), for .a. (Marr) fall profif honest alway, and if any be amang us meaning trewly to .nuper. (England), it fall be .a. (Marr). Yit God be with yow.

Yow see apperantlie .y. (Colville) hes tain the best cours in following .a. (Marr). The Lord turn all to the best.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

Rycht Honourable,

My meaning wes to have spendit fum few dayis in the cuntry upon my privat bufinis; bot I see matteris go on so quiklie, and so many new and different occasiouns, that I am forced to leif all to wait on this serviee.

1595.
Aug. 2.

I have writen how curagiullie his Majestie behaved himself at his last being in Edinburgh, specially to .e. (the Master of Glamys), and .h. (the Chancellor), in fuche fort as I think .e. (Glamys) fall not see his face heftely. Bot .h. (the Chancellor), at th'intry, fearing nothing that .q. (the King) had bene for .a. (Marr) (as he is, and will prove indeid), intred in proud speechis, comparing him self with .a. (Marr). To which speechis .q. (the King) answered, (after he had remembered .h. (the Chancellor) that he was bot a cadett of a mean hous¹), That if he fuld

¹ Not exactly so: Sir John Maitland of Thirlestane, Lord Chancellor, was the second son of Sir Richard Maitland of Lethington, and thus descended of a distinguished family, claiming Anglo-Norman lineage.

want his prefermentis, .a. (Marr) had a douzan followand him of as good rank. And so at lenth .q. (the King) asked, Whidder he wold be specially for him or .p. (the Queen), faying, though he wold love and interteny .p. (the Queen) as became him, yit he wold have none to fear thame to any doing without his speciall command, specially him who wes his creature. Upon this .h. (the Chancellor) said, he wes only .q. (the King) his fervand; bot .q. (the King), nochtwithstanding, wold have him planlic to renunce all other privat doing with .p. (the Queen) and that fellowschipp. Wharupon .h. (the Chancellor) defyred lafur till the next day. And so on the next morning .h. (the Chancellor) came offering him self to be most willing to renunce all frendschip that mycht offend .q. (the King), and presentlie to discharg him self with .p. (the Queen), .e. (Glamys), and the rest; bot, said he, it fall nocht be fa good for your quatuor (service) that this be done privatlie, becaus it is best to leif thame when I have knawin all their intentions. So by this flycht he plesed .q. (the King). Whidder he will fulfill it or nocht, God knaweth. *Sed lupum auribus tenet.* For if he reveill all, .p. (the Queen) may justlie reproche him, becaus he and .e. (Glamys) fered thame to all this busines. If he do it nocht, then .q. (the King) will think him ane abuser. Bot I think rether he fall fatise .q. (the King), and mak stepping stonis of his felowschipp. Now wpon the hoip that .q. (the King) hes to have this conspiracy reveled by him, and one part of thame to accus th'other, .q. (the King) hes thocht good that .a. (Marr) fall stay the perfruit of his enemeis till this be endit first; so the dyat of the 19 heirof will not hold till new consulation be had tharon, and for ane other refun mentionat in .quondam. (Mr Primros) his letter, which, with all writtin to him, he will impert to your L.; for what I forget in th'one is in the other letter.

Blantyre, Michaell Elphinston, and Tho. Eskyne have weil escaped at his Majesties last being in Edinburgh; and since his Majestie went away the Priour (Argyle) wes forced privatlie to leif the toune, for fear of thair practefes; and .h. (the Chancellor) wes his adverteser; so if thair knew .h. (the Chancellor) his part that ar at Edinburgh, thair wold think him a fyne man. The Priour (Argyle) is presentlie heir with .a. (Marr), sen he escaped the last danger.

His Majestie beginnis bukhunting the 7 heirof at Fakland. About the 20, he cummes to this toun to that game; from thence to Inchmirrein, and from that to Hammilton, and fyine hear agane. .P. (the Queen) I think fall, fra thai eum hear, byid for a good feafon.

Auguft (the Ilands men) are all diffolved; and Junior (young Laws) had gone to thame, wer nocht his mariag is to be the 5 heirof.

This ever the *a per se* .avdin. (her Majestie) being .y. (Colville) his cheif erdly respect, I do my humill fervice to .y. (Colville) his honorabill Mecenas, and to your self, caring only to do quatuor (fervice) to .avdin. (her Majestie), and for no other particular. This fecond of Auguft.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

RYCHT HONOURABLE,

Since my laft I have no new matter, only, refaving the inclofed from Junior (young Laws) yesternycht lait, I thoct good to heft it up, wiffing to know what he or I fhall do further in that matter, being boyth redy to follow commandment.

1595.
Aug. 7.

Yifternycht it is thoeht hir Majestie is gone to Fakland, for fo wes her diat peremptorly. The great numbers convenit at Edingburgh ar fkaled, awating fum better occafion; bot, as I writ befor, thai ar devydit, for .k. (the Chancellour) hes fold the rest, betwix whom and .p. (the Queen) is lyik to fall a new ftryif, for .p. (the Queen) affirms he ftered thame to all theis lait inquietnes; bot .k. (the Chancellour) wes chis his handis, as Pilot did, and trestis to mak stepping ftons of the rest, fpecially of .h. (the Mafter of Glamys).

The day of law will not hold till .q. (the King) may be in Edingburgh, which can not be till .p. (the Queen) be weil fettled, which is a principall thing we mufe upon. As other matteris fallis out, I fall not be flaw to writ: committing your L. to Goddis proteccion, this 7 of Auguft 1595.

Youris of the 23 I have refaved, wharof I humlie thank yow, committing all to your favorabill indeavouris.

The Heland men can not be yit landit, and thai ar bot a naked, dif-

ordred cumpany. Gilbert Mestortoun is to be thair, one of theis dayis, from .a. (Marr), with whom I mynd to writ, bot generally.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

RYCHT HONOURABLE,

1595.
Aug. 18.

Yifternycht his Majestie came hidder from Fakland, accompaneid with the Duik, Mar, Home. He remanis heir to the 20 heirof, and from thence gois to Inchmirring and Hammilton, and fyne returns heir about the begining of the nixt.

P. (the Queen) hes promift to cum to London (Sterling), bot fo unwillinglie as I dout tharof; yit no thing will be done in tryall of the last matter till thai cum thidder, and .g. (Hume) and .i. (Linclowden) are busy to have all composed and mitigat.

I haif not yit spokin with .a. (Marr) since his homecumning, tharfor I cannot writ certenly of this day of law, nor of findry other matteris, which I fall hef within two dayis at fardest.

E. (the Master of Glamys) went out of Edinburgh the 14 or 15 heirof, and send one to .g. (Hume), to se if .q. (the King) wold suffer him to see him in his bygoing; which wes simply refused.

Cesfurd¹ hes gevin wp with the Abbot of Melros,² and is to laid certane teindis pertening to him and his father the Erll of Mortoun, which will also mak a gret stur; and we think it will put Home and Ceffurd be the earis, for it is thoct that Mortoun will desyir all his frendschip except .e. (the Master of Glamys); that is to fay, the Duik, Ergyll, Mar, Home, Lyndfay, Rothes, to give wp in lyk mancir with Ceffurd; whiche if it be, yow knaw what may infew of it.

This is all I can writ for the present. With my humill service to my honourable Mecenas, I commit yow to Goddis proteccioun. The 18 of August 1595.

To .S. [Robert Bowes.]

¹ Sir Robert Ker of Cesfurd: he was afterwards created Earl of Roxburghe.

² James Douglas, Commendator of Melrose, was the second son of William, sixth Earl of Mertoun.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

As I wrote befor, his Majestie wes myndit the 20 heirof to have gone to Inehmirrein to his hunting, bot this unseasonabill wedder stayis him heir yit two dayis moir; bot his jurney holdis out the 22, and from Inehmirrein he gois to Hammilton, and returnis bak hear about the 3 or 4 of the nixt. At Hammilton .h. (the Chaneellor) is ordeined to meit .q. (the King), for reveling all promesed; which if he schift or delay moir, .q. (the King) will tak offensivly; in so much as yifternycht he said, (bot privatlie) that he suld be dif.h.it [dif-chaneellorit?] if he used subterfuges. So upon that, his cunning thidder, and return of .q. (the King) to London (Sterling), all dependeth.

1595.
Aug. 20.

I do think that .m. (Hamilton) and .a. (Marr) shall inter in fuir freindschip, for .m. (Hamilton) his sone wes heir for that same effect and .y. (Colville) is lyk agane to fall in credeit with .m. (Hamilton).

A. (Marr) spak with .p. (the Queen), at the earnest request of .q. (the King), .p. (the Queen) being pressed; but it wes so coldlie, that it hes done moir ill nor good.

G. (Sir Geo. Hume), .f. (Sir Robert Melvill), thinkis to labor a reconciliation betuix .a. (Marr) and .h. (the Chancellor); bot I think it fall not be.

The Erle of Orkney is now at Lendors upon his jurney home, repenting that he hes spendit so muche tyme and substance in vane. P. (the Queen) is thair also, wharwith .q. (the King) is no thing content: .quondam. (Mr Primrose) can tell moir of this nor can be writtin. Nothing but lurking hatred, difgyfed with cunning diffemulation, betuix .q. (the King) and .p. (the Queen); boyth intending by flicht to owereum other. Bot that can not long indure, if God fend nocht fun unexpected remeid.

The lord Dnik is in Glesgo, holding a justiee court, which shall breid him gret unkyndnes, as ordinarily such thingis hes done. Mr Da. Fowles hes writtin home that he is crossed thair. It wer good to lern what he meant.

Thair shall be a gret stir this harveft betuix the Abbot of Melros and Cessurd, about the leading of sum teindis thair.

Thus I commit honorabill .s. (Mr Bowes) to Goddis protektion; .y. (Colville) presenteng his humill service to Meenas.

The 20 of Auguft, from Stirling, 1595.

To .S. [Robert Bowes.]

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

1595.
Aug. 24.

THE 22 heirof his Majestie raid to Inchmurrein; the 23 he beis in Hammliton, and remanis thair to the 3 or ford of the nixt, and then returnis to this toun; and fyne his Grace gois to Fakland.

I think thair shal be muche ado to bring .p. (the Queen) to London (Sterling), and .q. (the King) fall go first to thame to Orleans (Fawkland); bot determinatlie all stayis till .p. (the Queen) cum to London (Sterling), and hart-burning aneuche increffis betuix .q. (the King) and .p. (the Queen), thocht boyth dissemble marvelouslie; and thair lakkis not wicket ones to blaw the belis, specially .h. (the Chancellor), who hes advertesed .q. (the King) that no thing spillis .p. (the Queen) bot .vair. (Edenburgh), and tharfor in any cais wiffis .q. (the King) to hold thame out of .vair. (Edenburgh). By this rufe he plefis .q. (the King), and caufes .p. (the Queen) think that .a. (Marr) hes gevin this counfell the mor to irritat .p. (the Queen) aganst .a. (Marr); bot I hoip the Lord fall clear all this deip defeit. The 22 heirof, .h. (the Chancellor) fend one hear, defyryng that .q. (the King) wold be contentet not to call on him till he came to Orleans (Fawkland), which is with greit difficulte granted. If .h. (the Chancellor) mak any moir delay, or be not plane at his cumming, as he hes promiff, then .q. (the King) affirms to dif.h. [dif-chancellor?] him, as I writ befor.

Of the act fraudfullie deleted in favour of Ceffurd, and new command gevin for inferteng agane tharof, I have at lenth writen to .quondam. (Mr Archibald Primrose).

The lordis and lardis suspected for the lait murthour are to give in offeris to Mar, thinking tharby to mitigat matteris.

Thair is apperance of a good frendschip to be maid betuix .o.

(the Duke), .m. (Hamilton), and .a. (Marr), which is a matter that .y. (Colville) laboris muche into.

Thair wes apperance, at his Majesties going out of this toune, of a trubill betuix the young Lord Glammes and the Maister [of Glammes], for which caus one Walter Neite wes fend to charg the Maister to render the hous of Glammes to the young Lord; bot this day we hear that the Maister hes refaved him within the hous kyndlie, and fo thai ar lyk to agre.

Thair is no thing yit done for Angus, for thocht the Church favour him, becaus he is thocht the most innocent Papist of all, yit, left his favour be a preparatyve to Huntley, I think he thall refave no condition at all.

Thus, my humill dewite alway remembred to Mecenas, I commit your L. to Goddis proteccion, this 24 of August, from Stirling, 1595.

This Winter, .q. (the King) myndis not to hant muche in .wair. (Edinburgh), bot at London (Sterling), t'Oxford (Lynlithgo), Orleans (Fawkland).

To .S. [Robert Bowes.]

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

WE luik hear for his Majestie the 4 heirof, and from thence to Fawkland. .K. (the Chancellour) fuld eum thair for the erand mentionat in my former, bot I hear the bruit that he is feik, which taftis of sun excus; and .g. (Sir George Home) is his for lyif, and will labour to fluster ower all matteris.

1595.
Sept. 1.

Bot evin yisterday I am credibilly informed that .k. (the Chancellour) his faction hes sun interpryis in hand which is ether particularly agans .a. (Marr), or agans .q. (the King) and all; and one of .a. (Marr) his [faction] is riddin to him this nycht to advertis him. What theis thingis may breid, the Lord knaweth.

I find, by your two severall letteris, my self frufrat thair altogidder,

wharof I marvell. I fear my Mecenas, and other frendis, be offendit with me; bot, as God levis, it fall be caulles,¹ if so be; nether fall it in any cais alter former resolotions. Ineadd, had I never hoped for favor, my displefour and hurt had bean the lefs, as .quodam. (Mr Primrose) knowethe. Alway now I fe no remeid, bot if it wer² .s. (Mr Bowes his) plefour to alleg, he furnifed so muche to .y. (Colville), and to writ to .q. (the King), at left to .g. (Sir George Hume), regretting that he ihuld be so used, and his handwrit so called in question. Suirlye I have had gret displefouris, bot a greter in gear I never had; bot I will trubill yow no moir with theis melancholeis: it is aneuche thai tormente my self.

The Lord alway preserve gratius .avdin. (her Majestie), Mecenas (Sir Robert Cecyll), and your self, with all the estat. This first of Oôtober³ 1595.

COLVILLE TO SIR ROBERT CECYLL.

MY HONOURABLE GOOD LORD AND MECENAS,

1595.
Sept. 10.

The ordinary intelligence I have fend, as I use, by the ordinary form. Only at this tyme, being sumwhat moir strated⁴ nor I looked for, as one compelled to his azill,⁵ I feik to your proteccion and refuge. For, hoping by his Majesties recommendations thair to have bene helped in a matter which alway hir gratius Majestie wes to deburs, I omitted other expedientis wharby I had weill aneuch gotten releif. Now boyth failling, I follicit your Honour for your usuell and undeserved kyndnes, in fuche forme as my freind Mr Prymros (if so be your plefour) shall inform, agknewleging your bypast benefites to merit moir nor all the service my mean indeavouris can acquyt so long as I live. Yet, however I be respected at this tyme, I shall never alter my former resolotion, which I had rether by deid nor wordis utter. Thus, my humill suit recomendit, I besech the Lord long to preserve in helth and happines your honour-

¹ Causes, causeless.

² "Bot if it wer," unless it were.

³ Evidently a mistake in the old transcript for September.

⁴ Strated, straitened.

⁵ Azill, refuge, sanctuary, asylum.

able lord and Father, your self, and nobill familie of Cceyll. This 10 of September 1595. From Sterling.

Your L. humill fervand,

Jo. COLVILLE.

To my honourable Lord and Mecenas
Sir Robert Cceyll, Knycht, one of
hir Majesties most honourable Privy
Counsaile.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

THE 11 heirof his Majestie rydis to Fakland, whar .k. (the Chancel-
lour) fuld cum for reveling matteris, as I befor writ. He hes pretendit
all this feiknes to evit that matter, for he wes not feik indeed, bot of a
fitt of ane ague.

1595.
Sept. 10.

.Q. (the King) bydis heir and in Lynlithgo all winter, to .p. (the
Queen) hir gret displefour; and the hatred betwix .a. (Marr) and .k.
(the Chancellour) increffis.

The Lady Bothwell, 4 heirof, came to Glesgo to his Majestie, com-
plening on hir sone; which wes purposlie done to mak his Majestie think
hir sone verey sinceir in obeying his commandements agans his awin
mother; bot it is fein to be a colored matter, for we think Bothvell is
fend for.

.E. (Ceffurd), with his brother in law .f. (Hume), and all our nycht-
bouris, hes thair folk upon ane houris warning, wharof .a. (Marr) is
advertit; and one hes promesed to forwarn .a. (Marr) 24 houris befor
thai can ryis. Thai think thame self so strong, that thai will not spair
to schew thair self, however .q. (the King) think of it, or wharfoever
thai be; bot I hoip in God thai fall sehort agans .a. (Marr).

Offeris ar maid be the kilba^{rs} (?) of Da. Foster to Mar, which he will
not bear till once a day of law be, to know the giltie be the innocent.

Gret stur is betwix the Lord Claud and his Sone, the young man, in
respeçt of his Fatheris alleged lunasy, seiking to have him interdyted
from disponing or setting of any titill or securite.

My awin particular, wharin I am thair fo indefervedly crossed, I refer to the relacion of .quondam. (Mr Primrose) and your favorabill credeite, not douting bot my honorable Mecenas will now extend his ufual and acenstomed kyndnes. Bot be as it will, gratius .avdin. (her Majestie) fall have .y. (Colville) his hart and quatnor (service) moir nor any other, and it may be to sum fruit and utilite, moir nor yit I can writ. .Y. (Colville) dothe his service to .s. (Bowes), committing him to Goddis proteccion, this 10 of September 1595.

Sundry travells, cheiffie .g. (Sir Geo. Hume), that .q. (the King) fuld go to veseit .k. (the Chancellour); and, thinking to draw him thidder, .k. (the Chancellour) still pretendit feiknes.

Junior (young Laws) defyris to know if the sendng ower ane Iris captane, to byid in the Lord of Tyrone's cumpany for .avdin's. (her Majestie's) service privatlie, or in service with 500 with hir subjeëtis, be thocht meat, being ready to find out one that he shall be answerabill for as if he wer thair vassall. Heirot lett .y. (Colville) have answer.

We hear that the Duikis brother fuld gett the Erdome of Atholl, and that he fuld marie the oldest dochter.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

1595.
Sept. 21. GRET travell wes maid for ane assurance betwix Mar and his nychtbouris, bot it hes tane no effeët. The messägeris wer Cars and Drummond of Medop. The offeris wer thre, Honouris to the Erl of Mar, to Garden, and 1000 markis to the wyf and childring of the defunët.

Now Leviston, Fleming, Elphinston, Arth, Dunnipas, persaving thair offeris refused, thair ar, in the beginning of the nixt or latter end heirot, to convene, and remane for thair savtie (as thair alleg) at Falkirk, whar thair think ordinarlie to have 100 hors. And hear agane, at Stirling, if thair mak this provocacion, the Erl thinkis to have Argyll (who is already cum), Morton, Tillibarn, Glams, Glenorchour, and moir nor 14 other Barons; and about the latter end of October Mar thinkis to have his day of law.

The Abbot of Melros is gone to Langnewtoun for colleccion of

his tithes, and we hear that Ceffurd will refitt, bot certenty as yit is none.

.Y. (Colville) gois this fame day to his owld frend .m. (the L. John Hamilton), privatlie to spek with him, for what caus yit I know not.

Young Pleffie wes weill treat with his Majestie, and is presentlie hear with .a. (Marr), defrayed in all charges. The 21 heirof of September, from London (Stirling).

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

MY GOOD LORD,

Thair is no new thing fen my laft, except that hir Majestie is, in the latter end of this monethe, to refave hir intres in Dundie and St. Androfs; and about the middis of the nixt gois to Dumfermling, and from thence to Lynlithgo, and his Majestie to this toun.

1595.
Sept. 24.

The Chancellour undoubtedly now is in gret danger, whos dethe will bread sum gret mattir. Sundry preffis to his office, bot his kyndnes tharof he hes left to Blautyir, for all the apperand hatred wes amang thame.

I can not yit hear what is done betuix Melros and Ceffurd.

In the latter end of Octoiber ane roid is infitut, to tak ordour in the west Bordour, for thay ryid continually, evin to the portis of Hamilton; and about or befor that tyme, Mar intendis to have his day of law.

.Y. (Colville) had bene with his awld [freind] .m. (L. Hamilton) weill and kyndlie ufed, and .y. (Colville) is employed to travell the allia betuix him and .o. (the Duke); bot I fear .o. (the Duke) will not consent, albeit he can not in any other part bestow himself so weill.

.Y. (Colville) his particular .quondam. (Mr Primrose) will declair to your L., wharin .y. (Colville) his dewte is rether to thank his loving .s. (Mr Bowes), nor to pres him to any diligence. To Mecenas (Cecyll) .y. (Colville) presented his oblist dewite, resting his and your beadman, this 24 of September 1595.

Let my faythfull .quondam. (Mr Primrose) fee theis occurencis, for I have writtin bot breiffie to him.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

1595.
Oct. 7.

ALL particularis I refer to .quondam. (A. Primrose), protesting, however thingis fail me, yit to thame fal .y. (Colville) never fail, God willing.

Thair Majesties ar to be to-morrow, as I hear, at Dumfermling, and this day, from Sant Jhonstoun cummis to Fakland.

On Friday nyght 9 houris the [3d inf.] heirof, the Chancellour dyed.¹ Thair his faction is headles. What cours thair fall tak is yit incertane, sum supposing that Cessurd and Baelench will crave license and depart the realm, albeit .e. (Glamys) had laitlie bene in Edinburgh, fearing his deth, to comfort and keap togidder the societie. Alway, upon his deth must follow unexpected matteris, and .y. (Colville) hoped in God now the door fall be no moir barred on him.

The matter of the tithes, betwix Melros and Cessurd, is continued for 10 days.

Mr Richert Douglas is to cum thidder, I think it be to procure benevolence for Angus, who is lyik heir also to find favour with the Church; and so, I fear with tyme, shall the rest.

Mar is marveluslie pressed to affuir with his nychtbouris, bot will not hearkin; and now I fear he fall be moir bent nor of befor.

.Y. (Colville) labouris fill to knit up the mariag betwix .o. (the Duke) and .m. (Hamilton), bot he feared that .o. (the Duke's) mynd be sum other way. Thus, beseeching the Lord daylie for the felicitie of

¹ Sir John Maitland, Lord Thirlestane: see page 171, note 1. He had held various offices, having obtained the priory of Coldingham in 1567, and been appointed Keeper of the Privy Seal in the same year, on his father's resignation. In 1568 he became a Lord of Session. These offices, of which he was deprived for a time, he again held. In 1586 he was chosen Vice-Chancellor, shortly afterwards succeeding the Earl of Arran as Chancellor; and notwithstanding the exertions of his numerous and powerful opponents, he held this high appointment till his death, which is said to have been hastened by the King's anger against him, as mentioned by Colville in his letter, supra, p. 171. He died at Lauder, on the 3d of October 1595, and was buried in the aisle of the Church of Haddington, where a sumptuous monument was erected to him and his lady; the King honouring his memory with the well-known epitaph, engraved on marble, but long since defaced. See *Archæologia Scotica*, vol. i. pp. 73, 104.

.ardin. to Meeenas and yourself, I do my humill fervice, from [Stirling], the 7 of October.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

SINCE the deth of .k. (the Chancellour), no talk is bot who fuld be preferred to that place. Be all apperance the lott will fall on .a. (Marr), or on th'other mentionat in .quondam's. (Mr Primrofe) letter; bot .q. (the King) sayis, he will not be fuddane.¹ .O. (the Duke) feikis the Seall, bot not granted; and .o. (the Duke) hes gevin peremptour anwer, in fair terms, that he can not end with .m. (Hamilton). .A. (Marr's) convention is to be at Lynlithgo the 24 heirof, whar we look that gret matteris fhall be in hand. .Y. (Colville) is put in good hoip to find favour at that tyme.

1595.
Oct. 15.

.H. (Master of Glamys), .e. (Ceffurd), and .noffer. (Bucklughe), ar werey buyf. All thair cair is to have .a. (Marr) new patron in the vacand office, and .p. (the Queen) is feared to infist tharin. This is all for the present that I can writ, presentng my humill fervice to my honorable Meeenas and yourself. From Stirling, the 15 of October 1595.

.Y. [JO. COLVILLE.]

I do my humill commendacions to my lady your bedfellow.

.K. (the Chancellour), as I hear, hes deid vercy penitentlie, and hes repented many wrangs done by him, specially his partiall informacion agans Jo. Knox and other good men. Your fervand knaweth the verite heirof better nor .y. (Colville) doth.

Knowing your L. earnestnes for me, I am afchamed to follicit, refering all to your acenftomed kyndnes and travell with my Meeenas; wiffing yow ftill infist with Tho. Fowles to have the £300 of the first money, as he wold have yow to travell in this nixt fuit.

¹ The office of Lord High Chancellor remained vacant for upwards of two years; John Earl of Montrose having been appointed, as Lord Thirlestane's successor, on the 18th of January 1597-8.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

1595.
Oct. 25. THE Convention apointed the 24 heirof is delayit to the first of the nixt [month], at which we look that a ordinar counfall to remane with his Majestie, a Echekker; and sum ordour shalbe sett down, for quieting of the deadly feadis betwix Maxwell and Johnston, who the 17 heirof have mett in Annerdaill, Johnstons boundis; for the lord he leis with, Drumlanrig, accompaneit with neir 2000, ran a forra in Annerdaill, and tuik away a gret buty of goodis, which ar restored; and sum priking wes, bot finall skayth, yit is lyk to grow too wors. At the Convention we look that the Chancellouris [place] shall fall to sum one or other, albeit his Majestie as yit thinkis not heftely to bestow it. Many brings for it James Stewart, awld Chancellour, amang otheris; bot I trest the lott fall fall on .a. (Marr).

Upon the event of this nixt Convention dependeth all our estat. Thair Majesties ar presentlie at Lynlithgo, and his Grace is to be hear the 27 heirof or 29 heirof, bot no certenty of hir Majesties hiddercumming.

The mattir betwix Mar and his nyctbouris is not lyk to reconfell, bot his L. and Lus ar lyk to agre. This is all for the present that I can writ, committing your L. to Goddis protection, the 25 of Ocober 1595.

Your awin.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

1595.
Nov. 5. BECAUS I had no leifar, pleis your L. that this also ferve for .quondam. (Mr Primrose).

At this Convention wes never a nobill man bot the Duk and Mar. No thing in effeete is concludit, bot all continuit to the 24 heirof at Edingburgh.

Hir Majestie is reconfeled with Mar, and his L. is also to be reconfeled, at the day forfaid, with Glammes, Ceffurd, Bacleuche, so thair will be no thing bot concord hear.

His Majestie beis in Stirling the nixt week, bot tareis not.

.Io. (Prior of Blantyre)¹ affuris me, or thai part from the nixt Convention the office of Chancellouris fall be full with one or other, for inconvenientis is sein by delay tharof. In the mid tyme, my lord Duik fall name one for keping the great Scall.

.Y. (Colville) his matteris ar al put of to the same tyme, and he had better hoip nor of befor. Of the lait flauther betwix Maxwell and Johnfion, the furst heiroy, wharin the Johnfions have prevaled, or now your L. hes hard. Thus, humlie taking my leif, I commit yow to Goddis proteccion, this 5 of November 1595.

Your awin assured,

[JO. COLVILLE.]

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

THE 9 heiroy his Majestie came to Edingburgh, and this same day returned to Lynlithgo. No thing wes done hear; bot his Majestie wes present at the Session, to lett the pepill see no apperance of alteracion, notwithstanding the deth of the Chancellour, bot all to stand as of befor, till his plefour wer to nominat ane other; which we hoip shall be this 24, appointed for the nixt meting of Counsale at this toun, at which tyme concord shalbe maid betuix Mar, Glams, Ceffurd, Bacleuch; and boyth thair Majesties to winter hear at Edingburgh for the most part. Thair is no assurance lyik to be betuix Mar and his nyctbouris, bot the day of law to proceid the 20 of the nixt, which can not bot bread sum inconvenient, which I pray the Lord divert. Within this two dayis, letters from .Pater. (Dunipace), Crichton, and one Maxwell, ar intercepted cumming from Flanderis to the Lord Hereis, which be keped seeret till the 24 forsaid. I hear the said Crichton wold persuad the Lord Hereis to deall with his Majestie tymullie to inter in frendschip with Spaine, becaus this Spring fuch power is to cum from thence as nether he, England, nor all the Protefantis elfwher can resist, bot with Goddis help: *par-turiunt montes, nascetur ridiculus mus.*

1595.
Nov. 16.

¹ Walter Stewart, Commendator of Blantyre.

This is all I can advertis presentlie, committing your L. to Goddis bleffed protection. This 16 of November, from Edingburgh, 1595.

Your L. awin ever to command,

[JO. COLVILLE.]

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

MY LORD,

1595. Theis dayis past the mariag of my dochter fall excufe my silence.
Dec. 7. Now our present estat is this : no talk bot of the Spanyard, and proclamations maid for weapinfchewing, and fortification of certane townes for refisting of thair defcent.

The xi heirof, at Edingburgh, ordour is to be takin for settling this deadly fead on the West Bordour,¹ and establisfing a new Warden ; which charg I do think fall fall on Carmichell.

Thair Majesties ar heir, and to remove this day or to-morrow, and to winter in Edingburgh. Her Majettie hes insifted with the Erll Mar for fteay of this day of law, bot as yit hes not prevailed ; and I fear this refusall fall breid moir displesour in hir Majesties hart agans his L., nochtwithstanding the lait reconciliation.

Ano acte is maid for reconseling of all deadly feadis, under which is meant to accord the Erll of Mar and his nychtbouris ; albeit the narratyve of the acte be groundit upon the refisting of foren enemeis.

This is all for the present I can writ. Committing your L. to Goddis protection. This 7 of December 1595.

Your L. awin.

I will not urg my particular, bot fall study to deserve.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

1595. This day of law is turned to this issue, as the Erll of Mar wes redy to
Dec. 22. have gone to accusacion, his Majettie fend for him, and so by persuasion

¹ Between the Maxwells and Johnstons : See p. 184, and Calderwood, vol. v. p. 385.

the day fall continew to the thurd day of the Air, which is in effect a full deferting tharof. The criminallis intered, and tuik instrument of thair apperance.¹

Of this procedur evry one spekis as thai ar affected, bot the most part thinkis the Erl has gottin a gret disgrace. It is thocht his Majestie fall accord the parteis, at left mak affuurance amang thame, bot I am full of fear that it shall turn from ill to wers.

The Lord Hereis, the Lardis Drumlanrig and Johnston, ar yit in the Castell till caution be found for keeping of good ordour; and many dois think the office of Vardarn² shall fall on Johnston or Carmichell.

Sum talk wes of the Provest of this toun his sending thidder, bot now not so much apperance; his erand he will hear of .s. (Mr Bowes) fervand.

I writ nothing to .quondam. (Archibald Primrose), becaus I fear he be on his jurney. So, having no other matter presentlie, I besech the Lord preferve all thair, this 22 of December 1595.

.Y. [Jo. COLVILLE.]

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

MY HONORABLE GOOD LORD AND MECENAS,

My humill dewte remembred. I can hear no overtur tending to the service of that estat, (namlie proceeding from persons of experimented honestie, as the gentillman beaar heirof is), bot of dewite I must present thame to your Honour, leaving the confideration of qualite and circumstance tharof to your prudent discretion.

1595.
Dec. 28.

Indead all hear that nether love religion, nor th'amite, expect gret mattaris this nixt year from your enemies; for intelligence wharof, if this gentillmanis laboris may availl, he is, as of before, as willing as if he wer your born patriot; and for his sincerite the best affected hear wold ansfer, in eais his former actions in tyme moir dangerus had not gevin sufficient prove.

¹ The parties summoned to undergo trial for being connected with the slaughter of David Forrester, pp. 162, 167: See Pitcairn's Criminal Trials, vol. ii. p. 351.

² Warden of the West Borders: See the previous letter.

So, with unfenzzeit hart, wiffing the felicite of your gratius Princeffe and estat, by whom our gratius Sovereane and religion had bene preserved and planted amang us, I humlie tak my leif, committing your Honour to Goddis proteccion, this 28 day of December 1595.

Your Honouris humill fervand,

JO. COLVILLE.

To the rycht honorable Sir Ro. Cceyll,
Knight, one of hir Majesties most
honorable Privy Counsale.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

1595.
Dec. 29.

OUR estat presentlie is thus occupyid. During the lyf of the lait Chancellour, his Majestie thoecht all weill governed; now he begins to think otherwayis, mynding, by using of his lawis upon horneris, and such as stand in no fear of lawes, to mak a gret profeit to him self, and contentment to his pepill; which ordour, if it be profequeted, shall effectuatuat boyth.

The deadlie feadis which so aboundis, as no man can savlie go a myill from his hous, his Majestie myndis to accord generallie with all, excepting only Papifis and actuall murtheraris; and the thre deadlie feadis which be principall, viz., betwix Maxwell and Johnston, Maguire, and Cunynghame, the Erl Mar and Leviston, about the 16 of the nixt ar to be pacefeid, and which soever of the parteis shall refus shall be the wers lyiked of his Grace. Bot still I fear this mattir of my Lord Mar work moir and moir mischeif, for though the day of law be continued, yit the hatred diminifis no thing on ether fyid, which (being so near nyehthboris) is fearfull.

.J. (Sir Robert Melville), .g. (Sir Geo. Hume), and .io. (the Priour of Blantyre), is the cheif rewlaris; and of .io. (the Priour) I beleif guid service fall be wrocht, as by .s. (Mr Bowes) fervand yow shall moir hear, and indeed is sum comfort that (such as he is) religiuis and lovaris of the amite ar in credeit.

Concerning .io. (the Priour), I befech yow think weill of that your fervand shall writ; for it shall, God willing, work good effectis, with no coft to .avdin. (her Majestie).

.P. (the Queen) will rewll all, and I fear .a. (Marr) go down.

Thair is a proclamacion maid agans intelligence to foren nations under pane of deth, wherat we do marvell that no exception is maid of confederattis, tharfor we muft be the moir circumfpect.

.Quondam. (Archibald Primrofe) is returned as yow knaw, which to .y. (Colville) shall ever be all one, for he shall fludy to deferve and not defyr, referring the iffue to Goddis good plesour, who molt ever preferve the moft gratius .avdin. (her Majestie), and thair eftat, this 29 of December 1595.

The talk agane of the fending the Proveft of Edingburgh thidder is renewed; wharin, as we can hear, moir shall be fend.

If it fuld pleis .s. (Mr Bowes), in a lyne or two to his fervand, purpoffy to be fchewed to .io. (the Priour), to mak his loving commendacions to him, and to rejois that fo honest and religius a perfon is growing up in credeit, it fuld bring on the fervice the moir quicklie, and avall .s. (Mr Bowes) fervand much.

ADVERTISEMENTS FROM SCOTLAND.

The 7 of December [January] 1595.¹

THE Kingis Majestie yifterday put out a proclamacion, declaring his finerite to relygion and amitie, all pennit be him felf, and marveluffie weill done, which is one of theis dayis to be prented. 1595-6.
Jan. 7.

This lait feditious book maid in favoris of Spane hes exaſperat his

¹ This date, the 7th of December, occurs in two copies in the State Paper Office; but is evidently a mistake. The whole tenor of the Advertisements refer to the month of January 1595-6. The proclamation mentioned, appointing a general muster to resist the threatened invasion of the Spaniards, is dated the 2d of January, and is reprinted by Calderwood (History, vol. v. p. 389-393), who says, "This is the proclamatioun wherof Camden makes mentioun in his Annales, which he relateth to have been verie acceptable to Queen Elizabeth."

Majestie not a litell; he fill holdit fordwart straitlie agans all horneris, and is to compound all deadly feadis, as in my former is mentionat.

This week plegis is to be takin of Maxwell, Drumlanrig, Johnston, for keeping good ordour, and a warden to be nominat, which I think fall be Carmichell.

Hir Majestie, on New Year Day, presented to his Majestie a purs of gold.¹ His Majestie demandit how sche had it. Hir answer wes, that hir Counsaile (viz., the President, Mr Jo. Lyndfay, Ja. Elphinston, and Tho. Hamilton) had preserved so much of hir leving to that use. Whar-upon he much commendit thair menaging, and immediatlie commandit his Collectedour and Comptroller to dimit thair offices, admitting the four forsaid to his Counsaile, laying the administracion of the said offices on thaim; and so thair four shall have other four of his Majesties conjoynd with thame (viz., Blantyre, Clerk Register, Colthay, and Mr Peter Young, by whome all shall be governed); bot sum question is amang thame who shall be President of the Counsaile; for the President of the Session thinkis, during vacans of the office of a Chancellor, that collection of votis, convocacion of Counsaile, and proponing of matteris thair, is dew to him. Agane, Blantyre, Lord Privy Seall, thinkis he fuld supple the vacans of the broid Seall; bot his Majestie will esaly compone this.

By the beating of a Purfevent at Stirling by sum of Carden's childring,² his Majestie is much moved agans the actoris, and thinkis Mar offendit in nocht apprehending thame; bot Mar, I hoip, shall deuitfully discharg him self. Thus I besek the Lord preserve yow.

The Provest of Edinburgh, we think, now shall undoubtedly cum up, for his apparell is alredy maid. His erand I can bot ges at; trusting yow shall heir tharof moir certainly by otheris.

Mr John Colville.

¹ This present of a purse of gold to King James from his own Queen, appears to have led to the change in public affairs which took place at this time, by the appointment of eight Commissioners of Exchequer (named Octavians), to whom the King entrusted the sole management of his affairs.

² John and Alexander, sons of Alexander Forrester of Carden. At page 156, he is by mistake, in the foot-note, called Stirling, instead of Forrester of Garden or Carden.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

THE 10 heirof, the eight mentionat in the other,¹ have accepted the commiffion of his Majesties Revenus, and hes gevin thair othe tharupon. Comptroller and Collectour² shalbe none heirefter; and fyve shalbe joyned with Sir Ro. Melville, to signe all giftes pertening to his office, which in effect takkis away from him the libertie of his said office.

1595-6.
Jan. 12.

His Majestie continuis werey ernift to compound all deadly feadis, and to punis horneris³ severly. The 10 also heirof, ane Irland preift, laitlie cum home by sea, was examinat in his Majesties cabinet, presentibus, Mr Ro. Bruce, Sir Georg Hume, and Proveft of Edingburgh. His letteris ar takin, which be all to the rebellus in Irland, incuraging thame, and affuring thame of suddane releif; bot theis be keped, to furnis the Ambaffadour which is to cum thidder for his better credeit.

Thair is also ane other Irlandois heir, called Gualter Quin, a fyne feoler. He hes presented at New Year Day to his Majestie ane oration tuiching his titill, which is weill accepted; and he placed at the Mr Houfholdis tabill, and to be rewarded, and keped. This oration is keped quiet, yit I had it about tua houris, and hes extractet the substane tharof, which falbe send be my nixt.

Bot lett good head be takin that matteris turn not bak hear agane; for affuridlie yow have thair sum unnaturall subjeētis, that caris not to hafard us, if thai may keip credeit with .q. (the King).

His Majestie thinkis him self neglected, in that no resident Ambaffadour is heir, with whom he may keip intelligence; and within thes 8 dayis he hes fundry tymes complemened tharupon.

Thus I commit .s. (Mr Bowes) to Goddis blessed protection, this 12 of Januar 1595.

¹ These eight Commissioners, named the Octavians, were Alexander Setoun, Lord President; John Lyndesay of Balcarres; Walter Stewart of Blantyre; John Skene, Clerk Register; Peter Young; Sir David Carnegie of Colluthie; Thomas Hamilton, King's Advocate; and James Elphinstone of Balmerinoch.

² The Comptroller was David Setoun of Parbroth; and the Collector, Robert Douglas of Glencludden.

³ Horneris, persons put to the horn, denounced as rebels, or under sentence of outlawry.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

1595-6. ALL matteris hear now ar directed be the eight, mentionat in my former,
Jan. 17. specially concerning his Majesties Revenus; yit this bredeth, after our
ufuall fasson, discontentment; sum nobillis and former officeris of estat
thinking thair ar unkyndly handled, and sum, zealus agane in religion,
suspecte sumwhat that the most part of the eight be of doutfull religion,
which is not unknowin to yow.

We think verely heir that yow shall be swallowed up this summer, in
so much as the preparacion of the Spanzard is hold to be out of dout;
that the French King and Philip will accord, and the Estatis of Holand
also will return to him. So thair think yow shall have no frendship bot
from hence, which thair say fall be effectuell, with this proviso, that for
our present help we have a present certenty of our place and possibilitie;
and I do think that this shalbe the principall point of the Provestis
commissioun if he cum up.

According to my promis in my last, I have send heirwyth a minut of
the Oration presented be Gualterus Quinus, the Irifinan,¹ who is gra-
tiuslike looked on, becaus the mattir tuiched gratius .ardin. (her Majestie)
highlie, and the Lord Threfaurer; whom I so honour, I culd not keip
it up. Wiffing gret seerey, for thair be sum thair that be unnaturall
to .nuperrime. (England), which wold be weil adverted unto; for thair
wes never a tyme moir dangerus to your advertiferatis, nor that careeth
moir neecessite to advertis; alway .y. (Colville) had layid his compt,
that no danger heir, nor coldnes thair, shall alter his inalterabill zeall to
the quatuor (service) of .ardin. (her Majestie).

The lait apprehendit Irifch preift is not werely fraitly handled, alway
what can be tryit out of him is deferred, to be brocht up with the Pro-
vest, for his better furniffing and credeit.

This fame day the Lord Sancher, upon ane old acquaintance betwix
us, came unto me, regretting that wheras he being in France sumwhat

¹ Walter Quin was a native of Dublin, and the author of a rare tract, "Sertum Poeticum
in honorem Jacobi Sexti, etc. Scotorum Regis contextum." Edinburgh, 1600, 4to. He
was attached to the Royal Household, as one of the tutors of Prince Henry.

diseafed, wes defyrus for his helth to have cum home by England, and culd not have that favour, defyring me to try if any ill opinion wes confaved of him thair, offring honeftlie to purg his felf, if any fuch thing wer, and to be a good instrument boyth at home and abroad. Willing me alfo to labour, in refpect he is yit to go for his helth bak to Italie, that fun warrand mycht be fend to Sir John Cary for his pafport, and he douted not to fatiffie .s. (Mr Bowes) in any thing can be objected agans him; which request I culd not refus. Willing to knaw in humilite hir Majesties plefour herin; committing forder to your nixt, and my faythfull .s. (Mr Bowes) to Goddis proteccion, this 17 of Januar 1595.

Evin at the clofing up heirof I wes informed that a fchip wes arryved from Flanderis, wharin wes one Elphifton, Jefuit, brother to one of the 8 Counfalouris, having with him commiffion boyth from the Pope and Philip to deall with his Majestie, and offer conditions, fo he will concur agans her Majestie and Hugonots. How this meffage wilbe accepted I know not.

In lyk maner, two other Jefuits have writtin home to his Majestie, perfuading his Grace tymufflie to inter in frendfchip with Spaine. And Tho. Tyrie hes writtin to the Lord Home; fchawing, that the Kingis Majestie, be exempill of the King of France, muft ether renunce his kingdome, or ellis be a catholique; fchawing that the Frenche King and King Philip ar to agre; and, that Vilroy, with fun otheris, ar to meit the Commiffionaris of Spaine in the frontiers for that fame effect.

Suirly all your frendis thinkis the prefence of ane Ambaffadour heir moir nor neadfull; and the eftat fchewing fuch apperance of zeall to refist the communemie, wold not be difcuraged be that defect; fpecially his Majestie is much greved with that mattir. This 17 of Januar.

PRECEPT OF KING JAMES THE SIXTH.

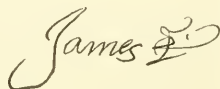
REX.

Mr David Foullis, We greit yow weill. Quhairas be our former letter, direct to our trustie and weilbelouit Mr Robert Bowes, Embaffadour for our dearest fuster and coufine the Quene of England, We

1596.
July 30.

required him to disburs for Mr Johnne Colvill three hundreth pundis sterling, ffor quhilk he hath engaged his credit. And fen it standis Ws in honour to see him pait of the fame, These ar thairfoir to let yow underftand that it is our will and pleafour; and als to requir and command yow, That, all excufes fet afyd, ye faill nocht to mak pament of the fame fowme to George Nicolfon, in name of the faid Mr Robert Bowes, and that of the firft and readiest of our annuities to be reffavit be yow this yeir in England. Quhilk fowme falbe thankfully allowit to yow; kepend thir presentis, with the faid George his acquittance, for your warrand. Subferiuit with our hand, at Dunfermling, the penult day of Julij 1596.¹

BLANTYRE. Mr J. LYDESAY.
CLĀ. REGIST. Mr T. HAMILTON.



COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

1597. RYCHT HONORABIL, My humill service remembred.
July $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{1}$. Being with his Majesties good lyeking, under his hand and Gret Seall, cum to Holand for my lefull effaris, yit agknowleging a speciall obligacion thair, boyth for favtie of my lyif and supplee of my neecessiteis at fundry times heirtofor by hir Majesties gratus goodnes, procured by your meanis, if I shuld not cary with me, whidder foever fortun shuld cary me, ane unchangabill mynd to hir Highnes service, I shuld be most unthankfoull; for which caus theis few lynis be to know if my weak indevoris, heir or elfwhaire, may be servifabill or acceptabill to hir Majestie or to your self, since I esteme your Honour my only directer and Mecenas. Assuring your L. this much, if it be your plefou, I continu intelligence (which now, in this place, I may do without suspition), that I am boyth willing and habill to do good service; for I am in company whar I may, without offens, try thingis which your awin

¹ On the back of this precept is the receipt, by George Nicolson, of his having received this sum of L.300, on account of Mr Robert Bowes, Her Majesties Embassadour, dated 20th August 1596.

patriottis can not so pertinently do. As ever it be employit, or not employit, my hart shalbe Englis, and my person subiect to your lawis, if I deall unfaithfullie.

I wold glaidlie know if any good cours be takin with the Lord Sanquhar; for upon hoip that he shuld tak sum thing in hand for hir Majesties servise, I wes defyred, boyth by my Lord Ambassadouris and by him, to find my self heir, otherwayis I had no erand; and if his fortoun be to do any servise, I trust he will confes I wes his persuader. Alway, if no thing be concludit with his L., so being it stand with hir Majesties plesour, I fall yit find a man upon resonabill conditions, not only to hant the enemye heir, bot also to understand of thair intentions.

Besyd this, thair is heir a mattir presentlie in broching, wharof I belief your Honour hes nott hard yit, a mattir werey neadfull to be knowin thair; bot I dar not hafard in partiicular to expres it till I refave your cypher; which, plesing your Honour, send me, togidder with sum warrand to Mr Gilpin, your Ambassadour, to refave my lettres, it fall be communicat.

Of the estat of matteris heir, for that your ordinary can better inform tharof nor any other, I tharfor abstene, fave only this, that the Polan Ambassadour and Oratour is cum hidder, and is of purpos to be in France thair, and with the enemye to treat of a generall abstinence from warre among all Christian Princes; for resisting the Turk, who, assistid with the Persian, is preparing incredibill forces.

Thus expecting your favorabill answer, I commit your L. to Goddis blessed protection; from Hag, this 21 of Julij 1597, *stilo novo*.

Your L. awin oblit servand,

JO. COLVILLE.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

RYCHT HONORABLE,

In this lait matter of Sir William Bowes, if hir Majestie think it agreable, one of hir owin subiectes shall schew a precedent, whair Scottisamen hes done the lyik within England, as yit unredressit. The gen-

1599.
June 24.

tillman is Captane Shelbye. Item, I fynd your Honour hes gevin gret contentment to Monsieur Wemes, who, I trust, shall nocht prove unthankfull. Fearing to disturb your better effaris, I commit your Honour to Goddis blessed protection. From London, this Sunday, airly.

Your Honouris humil and oblist fervand,

JO. COLVILLE.

To my Lord,

My Lord Secretares Honour.

“ 24 June '99. Mr Colvile to my Mr.”

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

RyCHT HONOURABLE,

1599.
June 26.

To the end no thing be unknowin to your Honour that I ether know or do negotiat into, pleas yow be informit, that in the matter of Gravelin the merchant heir, finding he culd not obtene hir Highnes tharunto, he hes tharfor, at request of his informaris, send the offer of that service to Conte Maurice and Barnavelt, by one Flemming duelling at London, called Englifthead; and what answer thai get, your Honour shall know.

Item, Fearing much the crossing of the sea, becaus of the Dunkerkers (in whos handis, if I fall, no ransom will save me), I did move Monsieur de Wemefs to get me from the French Ambassador two lynis, as if I had bene employit to France for the said de Wemes effaris; and going to refave that letter, the Ambassador (who seamit to me a gentill man wery ill informit in matteris of theis two realmes) began to enquiry many questions concerning the King his umquhyill Mother, and of their estat. Wharupon, at the suddaine, I tuik occasion to repeat the History to him, from the arryvall of the Quene from France unto this tyme; remembring the benefites of this Majestie to the King from his creadill, and agane his unkyndnes, boyth to hir, and to fuch at home as did save his lyif; and how none be so acceptabill to him as thai that be ether *Almani, Romani, Hispani, vel Jesuitici*. Wherupon he did seam to penfe marveluffie, and in end said, Yf the King suffered

him self to be led with a Spanis or Italian advys, he should ruin him self, for thai foecht no thing bot thair owne grandeur, to the prejudice of all other Royaumes. When I parted from him, he did request me to see him at my retour; wharin I shall be rewrit, and in all my other actions, by your prudent directions.

Item, If my Nevey arrive before my return, please your Honour question him on these points: What was Constable's errand to the King, and what answer he has got? Who be those that the King dealt privately with in this estate? And touching the money that should come from the Pope, who should go for it, and when? For these be the matters I desire him specially to inform him self upon.

So, craving pardon for this prolixity, I humbly take my leave, committing your Honour to God's blessed protection. This 26 of June 1599.

Your Honour's humbly, obedient servant,

JO. COLVILLE.

To my honorable good Lord,
My Lord Secretary's Honour.

JOHN COLVILLE—ADVERTISEMENTS.

From Bruce, the 10 heirof.

A THREE dayis before my arrivall to Paris (which was the 5 heirof),
did his man come from Spain, and doth inform: 1599.
July 10.

That he left the King at Barfalona, being prayed to go thither by some citizens thereof, who came to find him at Valentia. Their request was, to have liberty to prepare 100 galeses,¹ under commandment of Barfalonians, and not of Castilians; with promise to be ready upon his word when his service should require, providing that might be permitted at other times to seek their fortune where best pleased them. And this is granted, though his father would never consent hereunto; for which the King has two hundred thousand ducats, and the Marquis of Denia 30,000 to dress the matter with the King; and they have lifted for this use six

¹ Galeres, Fr. galleys, armed vessels.

millions of ducattis which thai had on bank. The 10 gret gallions which were beied at St Sebastian ar gone to Feroll, whar all the schips aponted for this navy shuld meit; and the Italian galeres shuld meit at Cartagena, in the Strates. Prince Dorea is attendit evry day with 18 galeres; and the 10 galeres of Naples, which did convoy the Archiduc and Infanta from Spain to Genoa, ar gone bak to Naples, of mynd to return in heft with theis of Sicilia and Messena, to the number of 20 or 30 galeres.

Thai wer in gret bufines to disapont the Holandois, and the Lentado aponted to attend on thame.

He doth as of befor, notwithstanding all theis preparacions and fleeing bruittis, affuir, that this year the Spanyard shal be habill to do no thing in theis partes; his refons being the fearfull plage which is among thame; the year being far spent; and nether the galees as yit cum to places aponted, nor a bastant¹ army lifted. That the Marquis of Denia (who governit all) holdit opinion never to invad England so long as hir Majestie leved; becaus, said he, sche hes hir pepill under such obedience and commandement, such force by sea, so many traned sogeoris, such fidelite in hir counsale, such visdome and experience hir self, that to invad hir shuld be bot inutilly to hafard thair men and money, which with better hoip mycht be reservit to a better tyme; and that he wold advys the King ever to have trefour and schipping in redines, bot never to invad till after hir deth, for then he mycht the more justly alleg his titill; then boyth hir counfall, nobills, and pepill shuld be diftraçied in divers opinions, sum following one respect, sum one uther; and finding this ruptur within thair awin bowelles, he mycht with assurance attaque, and be persuadit to import all with small danger.

The Lentado² did affirm the contrar, alleging the tyme to be most proper during hir Majesties lyf, becaus thair wer many just occasions of warre to be allegit, and great assistance of uther Princes to be expected agans hir, which nether culd be allegit nor expected agans any intrant; Becaus (said he) sche hes done sa mony indigniteis, boyth agans the King and uther voisin Princes; being, tharwithall, ane Hugonot, and under censure of the Holy Church. This debat wes in Majj last, at

¹ Bastant, Fr. sufficient. ² From the Spa. Adelantado, the governor of a province.

Madrill; and the King semeth to lyik the Marquis of Denia his advys best; and evin now, Baptista Detapis, Ambassador, conferring with Bruce heirupon, said it wes the best advys, and such as the King must needs follow. He hes willit me promis in his name, that he shall mak a 3 monethis advertifment befor thai shall be habill to attempt any thing, in cais any new resolutions intervein, *sed cum expostulatione*.

That Bothwell is much disgrafed, yit thai have no will to los him; and he him self, finding now his weaknes for lak of good counsale, is feikand to have sum vyis man of his owne nation to govern his effaris; and he hes sett his mynd on one of two, whos names your Honour shall know at meting.

For Scottis effaris,

He doth assuir that Glefgo¹ had schewit by writ, boyth to the Spanis Ambassador Baptista and to the Generall, that the King is Catholique Romane; and that it is so, your Honour shall have a letter from one other of good credit. That if the Bischop's helth will permit, he will go home this year, and fundry uther pernitiis persons be sent for by the King, as thai give out thair self to Bruce, in secreit; as one Frere Gray, Cordelier, one Campbell, Capuchin, and Mr Jo. Frisell,² lait Rec-teur of Paris, whois boekis for treuth be alrede gone home with his ser-vand, called Ro. Maners.

Of funn matteris tuiching Monsieur de Betun, by word I fall inform your Honour, becaus it wer tedious to writ all.

JEREMY LINDSAY TO COLVILLE.

SIRE,

Your Vyf hes taikin the sea against my vill, for I thoct scho fould have stayit till your nixt advertifement; bot scho vald not be stayit sen scho vnderstuid that ye desyrit hir to cum. Gif it had plestit hir to have tairiet onie langer, scho fould have bein veleum sa lang as ve hed onie thing to our self. The beirair can tell yon all particulars. Mr James Sempill is direcit towardis London, to supply Mr Foullis plaice. I houp ve fall not find sa mony tailles as befor: the gentill

1599.
Aug. 16.

¹ James Beaton, the exiled Archbishop of Glasgow.

² Frissell or Fraser.

man is verie courtes, and vill employ him felf in better seruices. Heir-
for I pray you, as I have done befor, to eschew all kynd of occationis
that may mak you be spokin of heir; for gif this gentill man fall be
compellit to speik as his predeceffour did, it vill do you and your freindis
mair euill nor onie thing that has bein spokin befor; therfor I pray you
to think vpon this, and [fo] do, that ve have not caus to remember you
anie moir on this maitter. The Lord preserue you. From the Pannis,
the xvj of Agouft [1599].

Your Sone in all seruice possiblie,

JEREMIE LINDSAY.

I pray you heift Thomas bak agane Mertimes, becaus I have findrie
thingis to do vith him then.

To the rycht worfchipfull Mr Jhone Coluill.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

RYCHT HONOURABLE,

1599.
Aug. 17. Such advys as I had yesternycht from Mr Lok by his wyf I do
inclosse, having a long discours to mak tuiching the French Embassador,
whom I do fynd verie weill affected to this estat, which I know not only
by conferance with him felf, bot by ane that is in his bosum. Within
theis thre dayis he defyrit me to get a packet of lettres conveyit to
Monsieur de Betun to Scotland, bot I told him thai culd no way go fo
favlie nor spedely as by your Honouris meanis, which he said to me he
wold follicit. Of befor I schew your Honour of one Englifed, that went
a moneth to Conte Mauriffe for the matter of Graveling, whos long abode
doth mak the party beyond sea think that Conte Maurice hes embrased the
matter; bot as more certenty shall cum, your Honour shall be informit.

The stay of my Nevey greaved me much; bot in that he doth not
writ at all unto me. I attend him daylie with som good matter, know-
ing our Scottis Court never to be fo quiet, as it is, bot when thai hath
fum finaik ston. *Quande le meschant dort, le diable le bersse.*¹

¹ A proverbial saying, When the wicked are asleep, the devil is tormented or uneasy.

To conclud, Rycht Honourable, I, hir Majefties poor Mardocaius, lying befor hir gait, am afhamed thus to be idill in a tyme fo full of effaris; bot I will patiently attend, till by your favorabill meanis I may be fett to work. So, being afrayit to impefche your gret effaris, I remane your poor beadman, ever in humilite redy and oblift

To ferve your Honour,

This 17 of August 1599.

Jo. COLVILLE.

Thai that cum from Scotland, within theis two dayis, fehew that thair hes bene a fray betuix th'Erl Crauford and Mafter Glammes fervandis in Edingburgh; and that all is quiet outwardly.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

RYCHT HONORABLE,

Yefternycht my Nevey is arryved, with direct anfwer from the party to the headis gevin him, and with fum uther informacion and lettres from other frendis, that will fehew how the King and Court be occupyit. I do only inelos a letter from Gerry Nicolfon, attending your plefour to call on us, for my Nevey is urged to heft; and fo I hoip your Honour will think expedient, after hearing of him. 1599.
Aug. [19].

Thus I humlie kifs your handis, committing your Honour to Goddis bleffed proteccion, this Sunday airly, by

Your Honouris humill fervand,

Jo. COLVILLE.

To my Lord,

My Lord Secretareis Honour.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

RYCHT HONORABLE,

I have heirwith inclofed fuche matter as I culd collecte of my Nevey, wiffing to know your plefour. We did attend all yesterday and this day 1599.
Aug. 21.

about your lokein, bot wes afrayit to importun your Honour, chusing rather to attend your lafar. So I humlie tak my leif, committing your Honour to Goddis proteccion. This morning, the 21 of Aguft 1599.

Your Honouris obliſt and humble ſervand,

Jo. COLVILLE.

To my Lord,

My Lord Secretareis Honour.

COLVILLE'S ADVERTISEMENTS.¹

Advertiſment by my Nevey,² the 18 Auguſt 1599.

1599.
Aug. 18.

MR CONSTABLE³ and the Lard Boniton⁴ came conjunctly in commiſſion from the Pope to the King; and hes offered, for the firſt, to him a hundreth thouſand crownes for liſting gardes, with two millions to interteyn his warres, how ſone he ſhall publiſh liberty of conſcience, and denunce warres with England; and of all theiſ ſowmes a found is layid, and ſchewit to the King how thai ſhall be colleceted.

Item, The Pope promeſes to him, by the forſaidis, the concurrence of all Catholique Princes; with affurance of a contribution of 20,000 pound Sterling more from the Catholiques of England, and the ſervice of 20,000 Engliſhmen, how ſone he ſhall ſchew him ſelf aganis the Quene; and on this head Conſtable promeſes largely.

The King, by word and promiſe, hes accepted thair offeris; and Conſtable gois by Denmark (whar he is ampilly recommendit) to the Pope, with the Kingis Great Seall tharupon.

The Lard of Boniton, and one Mr Alexander M^rWhirrey, Jeſuit, (who is arryved from Rome ſince the cumming home of Boniton,) ſhall return bak with Mouſieur de Betun,⁵ Embaſſadour, and ſhall inform

¹ Enclosed in his letter, August 21.

² Robert Colville of Cleish.

³ Henry Constable, B.A. of St John's College, Cambridge, was probably a native of Yorkshire. His name occurs among the English Poets in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. See Ritson's *Bibliographia Poetica*, p. 172.

⁴ James Wood of Bonnington.

⁵ Maximilian de Bethune, Duke de Sully.

Glelgo and the Pope's Nunce of all. And Boniton shall furnis a schip, lodin with quhyt, as if sche went only for marchandice; which schip shall go to Spain, and thair shall refave the first payment, with sum preiftis bookis, and uthir Popis furnitour.

With Conftable and Boniton did Glelgo¹ writ to the King, that if he wold not now embrace the Pope's offres, the Pope wold never agane know him, but wold affist sum uthir competitour, to his prejudice; and this advys which Glelgo did send (lyk as all the advyses he dois send concerning this matter) cums from Scotland from the President,² who is instrument for all the Scottis ligue; and he it is that makkis Glelgo to project thingis to the King, that be impertinent to him self to propone, as if thai wer proponit by the Kingis frendis abroad.

The more to illude the King, it is fayed, by the fornamed Commiffionaris, that the Pope, of all Christian Princes, doth affect him most for his lerning and pur lyif; and that by his advys the Pope can be content to reduce the Churche to that estait it wes into a fyve hundreth year ago; and in this the King doth not a litill glorie. Agane, the Pope calles him the Air³ of a Martyr, called by God to punis ane heretique⁴ and confederat with the Turk.

Thai have defyrit the Abay of New-Abay, on the west border, to be a retrait to such as for thair conscience shall fle out of England; which the King promefes to do connivently.

Item, Monsieur de Betun thoct he pretend no erand, bot from the King his master, to veseit the King of Scotland, for enterteneing the auld amite betuix the two nations; yit he is as ernist to perswad the King to embrace the Pope's offres as Boniton or Conftable is, and his persuasion shall prove of na small importance; for wheras of befor the King had promesit to the Pope and to uthir Catholiques in France (as to the Guifardes), yet in respect he did afterwart deny the said promefes,

¹ Beaton, Archbishop of Glasgow.

² Sir Alexander Seaton of Fyvie, third son of George, sixth Lord Seaton, was originally intended for the Church, and entered the College of Jesuits at Rome. At this period he had been appointed President of the Court of Session. He afterwards was advanced to the peerage as Earl of Dunfermline, and became Lord High Chanceller of Scotland.

³ Air, heir.

⁴ A word in the original is here deleted.

and did sumwhat to the contrar (as in the beheading of Fentry), tharfor his sincerite wes much suspected with thame; bot now de Betun hes takin on him to put the Nunce and all his freindis in France out of dout, and Constable hes promiffit to do as much at Rome.

Sanquher is rottin; and all that he pretendit wes bot collusion.

As to the estat of Scotland, the King is mutch offendit with the Ministry, cheiffie with Bruce and Melvill; yit thai think to mak sum frendship, in cais the King utter his partialite. And by meanis of Blantyir, Mortoun, Cassels, and Lyndsfay, thai ar devyng to fend for Argyll and Gowry, if thai culd get any secreit assurance of favour heir; wherin Mr Bruce hes communicat with Sir William Bowes, as your Honour may persave by ane of my lettres, otherwayis he had written to my self for that same effect.

How it doth stand betuix the King and Quene, and what sche hes in head, pleas your Honour, refave by the parteis informacion verball.

Mr Ja. Sempill of Bulltrees is to cum for the Kingis gratuite, with which fundry of your enemis shuld be comforted, specially Boniton.

The mustures and provision of armes maid in Scotland be all preparatyves agans yow; and the King having money, doth think that he can have, out of his owne and your cuntrey, fa many men as will serve his turn. The parteis opinion how to impefche him, shall be by mounthe declared.

The Kingis pedagre, which is collected by himself, in maneir brocht with the party, and prefixit to the Anfuer maid by Mr Dikson unto Mr Cecyllis book agans the King,¹ shall be joynit to the Rid Lyon in the Kingis gret standart.

Item, The Kingis gret familiarite with the Jesuit who did arryve with de Betun, breadeth gret suspition and malcontentment.

Advifes of the Negociacion of Mr
Constable and the L. Bonyton with
the Scottis King, from the Pope.

¹ It seems doubtful if either of these works were published. This Mr Alexander Dickson published at London a tract, *De Memoriae Virtute*, which excited some attention.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

RYCHT HONORABLE,

I am bold to inclofe such vther lettres as my Nevoy did bring; one from my fone in law, one from the principle party, and one from Mr Ja. Murray, fubferyving Phenix,¹ who is weill knowin to hir Majestie; bot I wes fore effrayit to fend that letter, becaus it maketh report of fum of the Kingis passionat and malitius wordis, which shuld not be thoct wpon, much les expected repeted. Alway your Honour will excufs your fervand to render as he refaves, with all fidelite. The pedagre and fundry vther matteris that be longfum to writ, I remit till I have the honour to know your mynde for difpeseche of the young man. And so I besech the Lord preserve your Honour, and to revard yow for your pitifull mynd, this 23 [of August], from London.

1599.
Aug. 23.

Your Honouris oblist fervand,

JO. COLVILLE.

To my Lord,

My Lord Secretaris Honour.

“ 23 August [1599].

Mr Colwyll to my Mr.”

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

RYCHT HONORABLE,

Yesternycht is arryved Mr Ja. Sempill; and a two dayis befor one Mr Ja. Stewart, brother to th'Erl of Orkney, having with him a verey evill affected perfon called Manneris, who wes, about a year ago, fervand to Mr Friffell,² lait Rectour of Paris, your mortall enemie; and I know the said Manneris wes fend home for no good offices; and he is cum hidder, as I underftand, without pafport, wharin the berar can inform more ampilly. And for that my Nevey may not long ftay, I am bold yit to inportun your Honour, that I may know your mynd tharin,

1599.
Aug. 25.¹ This letter is not preserved in the State Paper Office.² Mr John Fraser, Abbot of Noyon.

being my self near by to attend your plefou. Thus I humlie tak my leif, this 25 of Auguft.

Your Honouris oblift fervand,

To my Lord,

JO. COLVILLE.

My Lord Secretaris Honour.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

RYCHT HONORABLE,

1599.
Aug. 26.

By your anſwer doth appear that your Honour is ſumwſhat greved with my infecrecy and hant with the French Ambaffadour, and that I can not remane heir without the Kingis offens; for anſwer wharof, God and my conſcience beareth me record, I nevir did, or ſhall do, any thing that may juſtly offend your Honour. As for feerecy, I muſt confeſ I am nether indewit with that nor no other good qualite, bot with much imperfection. And as for the French Ambaffadour, I beleif he hes wnderſtand by me more nor ever he did of the Kingis behaviour and ingratitude to hir Majeſtie; and wpon this ſubject wes the moſt talk that ever we had. As to the Kingis diſplefou, I have his ample paſport wndiſcharget, and it is weill knowin that never one had or hes his diſplefou, bot your freindis; and if I ſhould ſay I did firſt loſs his kyndnes for the fame caus, I ſhould nether lye nor vant. Notwithſtanding, rather or hir Majeſtie ſhould be obnoxius for ſuch a worm as I am, with all my hart I ſhall feik my fortoun in ſum vther place, whar I may live with ſave conſcience; only befeching your Honour for your naturall humanite, ſince I am reſolved, whidder foever I go, to be a faythfull Engliſhman, that your plefou may be to mean my wofull eſtat to hir Highnes, and ſo, having your paſport with hir Majeſties miſericord, I ſhall not be long a doing. And for my Neveyis effair, if it be thoct inutill, he alſo reſaving your Honouris paſport, ſhall return. Thus, with the forouffulleſt hart that ever I had, I tak my leif, be humlie craving your anſwer, this 26 of Auguſt 1599.

Your Honouris oblift fervand,

To my Lord,

JO. COLVILLE.

My Lord Secretaris Honour.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

RYCHT HONORABLE,

According to your last answer gevin to this berar, I did attend your Honouris cumming on Munnunday, lyk as I have done ever since; and now hearing of your arryvall, I hoip your Honour will not be offendit that I put yow in remembrance, defyryng to know your plefour boyth concerning my Nevey and my self. Thus being loth to importun, I attend in humilite your answer, committing your Honour to Goddis blessed protection, this last of August 1599.

1599.
Aug. 31.

Your Honouris obliſt fervand,

Jo. COLVILLE.

To the Rycht Honorable my Lord,
My Lord Secretaris Honour.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

RYCHT HONORABLE,

Since nether my eusing nor I can go out of the cuntrey without pasport, his request is to have one, with sum notice that his name shall not be reveled, nor the parteis directing him, wharin for myself I am out of dout. In humilite craving also ane other pasport for myself; for or hir Majestie or your Honour shuld be reprovabill for me, rether let me be fend home, to fill the coup of thair cruelty; for now I am lothsome to my self, feing my erdly hoip is lyik to fail me. Praying God thay may mereit at your handis such honorable respect as is dareſt to thame, and that they play not one day Tyron's part.

1599.
Sept. 2.

And since your Honour is, as the Lord juge me, the subiect in the world I most honour and love, let it not be offenſyve that I besech your Honour mean my pitifull cais to hir Majestie; for within this moneth my wyf and disſreſſit menze be forced to leve the cuntrey, the King refusing to give her a penny of my awin gooddis, so that without hir Majesties accuſtomit grace I am schent for ever, and shall be forcit to starve. Tharfor, my gratius Lord and Mecenat, have pitie on me in this deplorable extremite, in which the les I can mereit the more shall

be your merit and recompens at His handis, who I hoip shall continew still his blessingis wpon hir gratius Majestie, whenas the oppreffouris of Nabath shall refave dew reward.

Thus, attending your favorabill anfuwer, I commit your Honour to Goddis blessed proteccion, this 2 of September 1599.

Your Honouris oblist fervand,

To my Lord,

My Lord Secretareis Honour.

JO. COLVILLE.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

RYCHT HONORABLE,

1599.
Sept. 9.

Such advyfe as I have from Scotland I have inclofed, wharby your Honour may see how I am handlit, boyth within and without. As I can lern farder of the party that hes hurt me, or of any uther matter fervifable to hir Majestie, in the partes whar I go, I can not omit to advertis, except I be expresselie inhibit; for, beat as yow will, as a dog I must still fawn; and if I peris, I shall be found, God willing, dead in the hye, not in the by way; yea, though frendis and foes and all shuld concur agans me, *impavidum ferient ruinae: Quia, conscia mens, ut cuique est ita concipit, intra pectora pro facto spemque metumque suo.* This, in humilite taking my leif, I commit the relacion of sum uther particularis to this berar, and your Honour to Goddis blessed proteccion. This 9 of September 1599.

Your Honouris oblist fervand,

JO. COLVILLE.

To the rycht honorable my Lord,

My Lord Secretary.

COLVILLE TO MR BOURTON.

1599.
Oct. —

Good honest Mr Bourton, by theis I commend me hartly to yourself and loving bedfallow, thanking yow of all your kyndnes. By theis I only pray yow think that I have falit in my dewite so much, not for any fraud or deceatfull meaning, bot for lak of moyens, being, as yow know,

deprivat of my awin moyens. Yow will tharfur imput all to my fortoun, and not to my fidelite, and hold me fill in your favour; and for the compt of your chalmer, I pray yow be as refofabill as yow may, and if I may ever acquyt your kyndnes with the lyk, be affurit to fynd a thankfull man. Thus I commit yow boyth to Goddis proteccion.

Your affurit frend,

JO. COLVILLE.

To my loving freind Mr Bourton, at
London.

COLVILLE TO ROBERT LONGE.

TREST FREIND, I have refaved your letter and your compt, and fuirly, fuppos I remember not upon all gevin up in your compt, nor what yow have relavit of me, yit I remit all to your conscience and honestie, in which I confide much; and if, by meanis of such middes as Monfieur de Wemes¹ hes laborit for me, thair can be any money gettin, yow shall refave the half of that yow geve up, and that in full payment; and I pray yow continw your kyndnes to my Wyf, that we part in sic kyndnes as we began. I do my commendations to faythfull Mefter Bourton and his good bedfallow; and fo I commit yow to Goddis proteccion, this [. . October, 1599,] from Paris.

1599.
Oct. —

Your affurit freund,

JO. COLVILLE.

Robert, tak in good part what I may do, for if my forton wer better, my aëtions fhuld fehew more liberalite. If I wer with yow, I culd fay to yow many things I will not writ, becaus yow can not reid.

To my trest freind Robert Longe, at
London.

¹ Colville of Easter Wemyss.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

HONORABLE LORD AND MECENAS,

1599.
Oct. 20.

Theis be to fehaw your Honour that I am and hes bene in France ever since the 24 of the last, notwithstanding any bruittis reportit to the contrary, which be purposlie gevin out by my self, that such thair of my own nation as feik to mak thair credit at home by my diseredit may not know my footsteps. Since my arryvall, I have yit lernit nothing worthy of your Honour, except that being in Calaise, I found Ro. Manneris¹ thair, and the Erl of Orkneyis brother, who did much vant that thai came of [out] of England without pasport, evin in the tyme when all wer on thair gardes. Thai imbarquit at Gravesend, and Tho. Dowglas wes thair convoy, as thai fay thair self. At my cumming to this toun, I hard one Capuchin wes gone home in secular apparrell, calling him self Barkley; bot my informer thinkis it to be the young Lord Forbefs,² who a 7 year ago did render him self Capuchin at Bruffellis. And this fame day is gone to Newhevin³ from hence, for Scotland, the Erl of Sudderland and cusing to the Erl Huntley, who was once weill nureit with Mr Bruce, minister, bot now is revolted. As I go forder up, if I fall wpon any thing more materiall, I shall inform; bot I vold have fun notice from your self if it will be acceptabill; for by your last lynes it seemeth to me that your Honour wes funwhat offendit, which hes

¹ Perhaps Robert Mannors. See Dodd's Church History, vol. ii. p. 118.

² This was John, second son of John eighth Lord Forbes by his first wife, Lady Margaret Gordon, eldest daughter of George Earl of Huntley. At this time he was heir to the title, his eldest brother, who forsook a military profession and became a Capuchin, having died in 1593.—(Aremberg, Flores Seraphice, vol. ii. pp. 181.) Subsequently to this event, John Forbes arrived in Flanders, and entered a convent of Capuchins, under the name of Father Archangel. According to the inscription on a rare and finely-engraved portrait, he died on the 2d of August 1606, in the 36th year of his age and 13th of his conversion. It accompanies "The Life of the Reverend Father Archangell Scotchman," one of the three Lives contained in a scarce volume printed at Douay, 1623, 12mo. As he died without issue, Arthur, eldest son of Lord Forbes by his second marriage, succeeded to the title.

³ The town of Havre was called Newhaven by the English, during the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

bene one of the forest crosses that ever I had, feing that to my remembrance I never did offend hir Majestie or hir estate, or your self in particular, so much as in a undewtifull thoct.

Item, That your Honour may be acquainted with all my proceedings, pleis you understand, that at my departour from thence, sum pat me in hoip to obtene the money which the King's Majestie aw me, fo being I wold abstene from spechis, perfones, and places that myeicht offend him; which for the space of two monethis I have promist to do, that my frendis shuld not see me opinionastre.

In the mean tyme (if I may unoffending your Honour), I wold recommend my pitoyable estat and my families to your wonted favour, that by your good meanes hir Majestie may be moved to have compassion on ws; besefching your Honour, if any comfort can be obtenit, that it may be delyverit to my Wyf in such form as I have at lenth writtin to Mr Willies, for causes contenit in his letter. And thus, besefching the Lord blefs your Honour with temporall and eternall felicitie, I humlie tak my leif, from Rowen,¹ the 20 of Oçtober 1599, *stilo novo*.

Your Honouris oblist, humble fervant,

JO. COLVILLE.

If in the cumpany of a Irissinan thair be one called Campbell takin, pleas your Honour be informit that he is a Capuchin, and gone home for ill offences, and that he is the preachour of our nation² most vehement agans Religion and the amitie; and he it is that hes corrupted the young Lordis Seatoun, Drommond, Elphinstoun, who be all yit in Parife,

¹ The city of Rouen, in Normandy.

² John Campbell, a native of Clydesdale (I think he was born in Biggar), entered the Scots College at Pont a Mousson in 1588. He became a Capuchin, under the name of Father Chrysostom, and was a favourite preacher in Paris, which may illustrate Colville's expression of Campbell being "the preachour of our nation," &c. He was much esteemed by the Princes of Lorraine, who permitted him to open Capuchin convents at Pont a Mousson and Nanci; was often missionary in Scotland, and twice imprisoned as such, but was still alive in Lorraine in September 1625.—(MS. note by the Rev. G. A. Griffin, R. C. C.)

and wer his Auditours. Be affurit the Bifchop of Glefgo and Frieffell have committed much to him.

To my Lord,
My Lord Secretaris Honour.

COLVILLE TO SIR THOMAS PARRY.

[RIGHT H]ONORABIL,

1603.
Oct. 22.

[I am unwill]ing to moleft your L. . . . [but I thought g]ood by theis few lynes to ad[vertife you of my cu]ming to Rowen the 16 heirof; and finding [that one] Gardner¹ was gone from thence to Dieppe, as he faid to Frere Gray, I went thidder, and culd find no word of him, except that one told me he was gone to Newhavin, and that he had diffeblit with Frere Gray. So I returnit bak to Rowen, and hes fend a fouir hand to go boyth to Hilbeuf² and Newhavin; and I am certane to get fuir knowleg within 8 dayis whidder he be gone over or not. Doctour Middiltoun, who promift fo faythfullie to your freind to remane beyd Rowen, is notwithstanding gone to St Mallo, and from thence to Irland, wharof I will this day advertis your freind, whom I have not yit fene; for I wold begin at your Honour, as my dewite is. I culd never heir a word newis at Diep, for thai will fuffer no man to land thair; and with gret pane will thai fuffer thair boitts to be hyrit to go over. This 22 of Octoiber.

Your Honouris humill fervand,

[Jo.] COLVILLE.

COLVILLE TO PARRY.

1603.
Oct. 23.

THE 23 of Octoiber past by this toun of Paris to Bruxelles, Adam Cumming, Priour of Beaulie, Scottifman,³ who hes a penfion of 20

¹ This may have been Father James Gardner, S. J., who died or left Scotland in 1622.

² Or Elbeuf, a town in Normandy, on the left bank of the Seine.

³ Adam Cumming, son to Alexander Cumming of Ernside, was presented to the Priory

crownes a moneth of Spaine, and one Mr Sachell, Englishman, who gat 200 crownes of viaticum: thai be boyth eum from Spaine laity, and mynd home.

The copy of Doctour Cecylles¹ letter to a Doctour of Sorbon is promitt to me, wharin he wold put Catholiques out of all [hope] going to find favour of his Majestie any way.

The Constable of Castillie is lookit for in the beginning of the nixt moneth.

[Jo.] COLVILLE.

COLVILLE TO PARRY.

PLEAS YOUR HONOUR,

. the incolfit as to Rome, for William Carus. Pleas yow oppin your accustomit maneir, and to clois it agane. Upon that subjeet I have more to fehew to your Honour to morrow airly. For the present, humlie taking my leif, and resting

Your Honouris humble ferviteur,

[Jo.] COLVILLE.

of Bewly, 13th February 1580-1.—(Register of Presentation to Benefices.) The priory, place, and monastery of Bewlie, "vacand by resignation and dimission of Adame Cumyng, last prior and possessor thereof," was conferred on James, afterwards Sir James Hay of Kingask, 10th May 1607.—(Ib.)

¹ Doctor Cecyll. This John Cecil was a relative of Sir Robert Cecil. He studied at Rheims, and took his degrees at Cahors. He was at Seville in 1590, when Cardinal Allen dispatched him to England and Scotland. In Spanish he is named Juan Cecilio. See Calderwood's History, vol. v. p. 193. While in Scotland, he resided principally with two Roman Catholic families, those of Lord Herries and Lord Setonn. Father Parsons and Cardinal D'Ossat accused him of being a political spy; and from Winwood's Memorials, vol. i. p. 51, it appears there were too good reasons for the accusation. To this information Mr Griffin adds, "Horrible to relate, Monsigneur Conn reports that this traitor revealed even the *private confessions* of the Scottish Catholic nobles."—(De duplici Statu Religionis apud Scotos, p. 157.)

FRIAR THOMAS GRAY TO JOHN COLVILLE.¹

RIGHT HONORABLE AND WELBELOVED,

1603.
Nov. 11.

In [answer to] your wretin I have byn euill fen your departing frome this toun; now, thanks be to God, convalescit. The man, ye knaw, most have ane buye-heid, for *stare loco nescit*. Now ryden to Newhaven, now to Bollon,² and verray inquisitiue of novells from Ingland. I beleyf he be ane man of sum greyt affayr. I sperit at ane Inglis preift quhat he sould be, bot he cold not answeir me. Thar is twa preifts come over from Ingland, quhay fais, Notre Sanct Pere ha vn mauvais affection envers notre Roy comme les hereticks font courir. Mais je scai bien le contraire, car sa Sainctete ne veult rien contre la volonte de notre Dieu, qui omnes homines saluos fieri, qui non venit perdere sed . . . quod perierat. Illi autem contra qui e contrario contra Sanctissimum Patrem nostrum contrarium asserunt gregis Apostolici dilaniatores sunt. Nam nisi mendaces essent heretici non essent, quia omnis hereticus mendax est. Quant a votre homme Anglois les semblables, observez vous qui caute ambulant, sicut habebis formam nostre ecclesie. Au reste, recommande moy a votre femme, fille, et Robert, et a tous vos bonnes amis Catholiques. V . . . escript a Rouen cest xj. de Novembre.

Par votre inding frere et serviteur,

FRERE THOMAS GRAY.³

¹ Among the Cottonian MSS. there are two copies of this letter, both damaged by fire, but the one has supplied nearly all the defects of the other.

² Bullon, or Boulogne.

³ This Friar Thomas Gray was Prior of the Franciscan Convent of Aberdeen. After the Reformation in 1560, the convent having been suppressed, he retired to Rouen. In 1584, he is described as "a man of good credit among the Papists."—(Calderwood's History, vol. iv. p. 253.) In the following year we find him styled "Sir Thomas Gray, sometime Priest of the Queen's Colledge in Scotland."—(Ib. p. 399.) He lived to a very advanced age; and Dempster, who was nearly related to him, apparently his nephew, states that Gray died at Rouen in 1616, at the incredible age of 137

Le libre de notre Roy¹ est imprime en cest ville, et je cherche un homme feur pour l'enuoyer en votre nomme.

Le bruiçt is hier that the Kings of Spayn and England ar accordit in all.

Au tres honorable gentillhomme et
tres docte Monsieur John Colvil,
Efcossois, demeurant en Paris a
Plafmobart au l'enfeigne de l'estrape
blanche, soient données.

Pour le port 3 fr.

years, "vivace adhuc memoria, ac stomacho habili, nec visu inefficaci, nulla corporis parte nisi pedibus in tanto senio debilitatus."—(*Historia Ecclesiastica*, p. 324.)

¹ This evidently refers to the French translation, by John Hotman de Villiers, of King James's well known work, the Βασιλικὸν Δῶρον, ou *Present Royal de Jacques I., Roy d'Angleterre, au Prince Henry son fils, &c.* Paris, 1603, 12mo. It was reprinted at Poitiers during the same year; and again at Rouen, and also at Paris, in 1604. All these editions are in the same duodecimo form.



ADDITIONAL LETTERS
OF
MR JOHN COLVILLE.

COLVILLE TO WILLIAM DAVISON.

It may pleis your Honour caus heft this paquett with all convenient diligence toward the Ambass. your L. college. I am fory that I had not lafur to hane conferrit langer with your Honour; bot quhill better oportunitie be offerit, I pray your L. esteeme of me as off anc affectionat to do yow service and plefour. And so, for the present, most humbly taking my leif, I pray God preserve your L. From Newcastle, the first of Januar 1582.

1582-3.
Jan. 1.

Your L. alway to be commandit in lesum maneir,

JO. COLVILLE.

For hir Majesties effaris. To the ry^t
honourabill Mr Davidsons, Embass.
to hir Majestie, to hym in Scotland.
Newcastell, the first of Januar 1582,
at 12 of klok.

KING JAMES THE SIXTH TO QUEEN ELIZABETH.

MADAME AND DARREST SISTER,

We recomend us maist hartlie unto yow. The continewance of your motherlie affection to us, vith your accustamit cair [for] our veifair, veill apperith in the prospettit of your favorable acceptance of our last lettres and negociations presentit to you be our Servitor JOHNE COLVELL,

1582-3.
Feb. 21.

intertened with gret honour for our faik. And that hath reportit to us the fame; and your fingulier guid vill and freindlie answeris gevin to all his erandis for us, and refolvit to our gret confort and contentment. And hovmekill ye esteeme of our self and lovinglie tendir our requestis is planelie vitneffit be the testemoneis of your lait favour grantit to our cousing the Duik of Leuenox, quhome at our especiall desyir ye have admittit to your presence and honorit vith gret courteseis. Lyk as be the sycht of your owin letter brocht to us be the Laird off Kilsyth, as alswa be ane other ressavit fra our said cousing; and be the declarations of your Servitor Mr Bovis, We are sufficientlie informit the gretnes of your present kyndnes; and the memorie of your formair benifeittis thus plentifulle bestovit upoun us, do nocht onlie justlie bynd us, to rander to you maist hartlie thankis, vith promeis of all dev gratuite and thankfulnes. Bot alswa, upoun the experiance of your luiff and cair for our prosperitie, do incurage us to commit our self and veilfair of our estait to your guid avyse and freindlie supparte, knowing that in our awin effairis ye can and will counsale us maist for our honour and profit. And trusting that in all our necessiteis ye will releve us for our best standing and sustie, quharein as be your freindschip in thais pairtis ve have bene the bettir, and heirefter fall be enabled to do the officis appertenyng our calling and dev to our freindis (sa your guidnes employ it upoun us) fall redound and returne to your especiall contentment as to our maist deir freind and loving Cousing possessing sik cheif intract in us ve can nocht be satisfieit or hauld our selfis happie unto ve have gevin pruif of our thankfull mynd determinaid to honour, pleis, and requyte yov and your favour to us, be all the guid deveteis in our pover. And vissing that apt occasions may be offerit to us that be our owin speiche and actions ve may effectualle performe and yeild the dew recompane that our hart ernistlie desyirith, qulich ve trust God fall grant in best tyme, and in the mone seafon may pleis yow to accept thais as a pladge of our guid will and promeis to yow, quhairin ve intend mair largelie and in particulariteis to commend and mak knowin unto yow our farther desyris that be our servitour Corronell Stevard, (quhais delay, protracted be occasionnes beyond our purpos, ve hartlie pray yow to tak in guid pairt), fall schortlie be brocht unto yow. And

this our derrest Sifter ve commit yow in Godis hiche protection. Frome our Palice of Halroudhous, the 21 day of Februarie 1582.

Youre maifte lovinge and affectionate Brother and Cousin,

JAMES R.

To the rycht hiche, rycht mychtie
and excellent Princes, our derrest
Sifter and Cousing, the Quene of
England.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

PLEIS YOUR L. The estait of matteris heir, God be prafed, is sic as your Honour wold desire, for our maisteris guid affection to hir Hichnes, and to all nobill men in England and Scotland, that favouris the amitie betwix thame increffis dayly, sa that gif his Majestie get correspondance according to his guid meaning, matteris fall schortlie fall out to the satisfaccion of all honest men. 1582-3.
March 16.

This 16 of this instant Colonell Stewart and I, wyth advys of ane guid number of the Nobilitie, ar commandeit to prepar our self to our journey. Our Instruccions ar neirly formed, quhairwyth your L. falbe maid acquainted sa far as I may stand wyth my dewte, werry schortlie. Maniwill hes also said all that he hes to propone, and gettis despeeche this nixt week, nether will we ony way inter in journey till he be remowit. His Majestie hes also promesed that scharp tryall falbe tein of this feminar preift. The nobill men that wer at our direction, and upon Maniwillis despeeche, ar Argyll, Angus, Mar, Montrois, Egleintoun, Gowry, Dunfermling, Down, Fleming, Cambuskynethe, Culros, Orkney, Justice Clerk, Clerk Register, Advocat, and Comptroller. I know thair ar sum ewill instrumentis, that wold mak it appeir to hir Majestie that my Sovereigne menis not trewlie; bot I assuir your L. of the contrare, for now his Majestie beginnis opynly to defend the argument that the amitie of England is mair necessare for him nor of ony other nation, and hir benefetis greter than he hes refaved from ony other Prince. Of this I pray your L. be assured, for gif I fand him not constant in that

quhiche I promefed for his Majestie, I wald not feill to advertis hir Majestie faythfullie thairof, as I haif promefit; tharfor I wald be fory to know that cwill reportatis fuld interrump fa happie ane concord, or that evir fuld be giffin to thame that feis not how matteris gois heir. Gif ony complant beis presented to your L. of Maister Dik, to quhom your L. hes done fa gret plefour, pleis your L. suspend your jugmentis to my cumming, for the man is werey honest, and hes maid exceeding guid report to his Majestie, and to the ministry, of the liberalite quhich hir Hienes bestowit upon him, bot his nyctboris, quho wer spoyled wyth him, inwysis his guid fortoun, alleging that he hes tein fatiffaction for thame all, quhairof your L. can be best juge.

I will nocht trubill your L. wyth langer letter, bot humlie taking my leif, I pray God preserve your L. in helth of body and faull. From Halyruidhous, the 16 of Martii 1582.

Your L. alway to be commandit with service in lesum maneir.

JO. COLVILLE.

To the Rycht Honourable my werey good Lord, Sir Francis Welchingham, Chief Secretary of England, and ane of hir Majesties most Honourable Privye Counsaile.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

1583.
March 30. It may pleis your Honour, fen the writting of my last letter na change hes bein heir, bot all matteris in sic guid estait as your L. wald wische. Sum displefor the Erll of Gowry consawit upon evill information aganis Dumfermling and sum otheris, bot the matter is pacefeit to all thair contentmentis. His Majestie continewis in marvellus guid disposition to pass sincerly fordwart with hir Majestie in the cours begun. Maniville, I think, falbe on his journey befor theis lettres can cum to your L. handis.

The Colonell now is prepared, quhom ye may luik for werey shortlic. He is to seik hir Majesties advys concerning our Masteris marriage, to craif support; and to insift in the self same articles which my Lord Dum-

ferming and the Clerk Register proponit at thair laft negotiation. I beleif this gentill man caryis with him fufficient fatiffaction in all thingis that can be focht of him on my maifteris part; to which fufficiency I commit the particulariteis of all matteris, committing your L. to Goddis bleffed proteccion. From Halyruidhous the penult of Martii 1583.

Your L. alway to be commandit in lefum maneir,

JO. COLVILLE.

To the richt honorable Sir Francoys
Welfchinghane, Cheif Secretary of
England, and ane of hir Majesties
maift honorable Privy Counfale.

STEWART AND COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

RYCHT HONORABLE SIR,

According to our lait conference at Somerfyde Houfe, we have heir fet downe the speciall hedis which we have in commiffion, praying your Honour very hartly to further us to a favorable and fpedic anfwer wherof, according to your speciall meanes. We commit your Honour to Goddis gude proteccion. From London, this 9 of May 1583.

1583.
May 9.

Your Honours affuerid freindis,

WILLIAM STEWART.

JO. COLVILLE.

To the richt honorable Sir Frances
Walfinghane, Kny^t, Cheif Secre-
tary to the Queins Majesty, ane of
her Privie Counfale.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

It may pleis your Honour, feing this guid werk betwix our Soveranis is now to be intreated upon, and that the guid fucces of the matter dependis upon the meffage which we haif in hand, I thought it necef-

1583.
May [13]

fare to lett your L. foirknaw the effectis of our legation, to the end I may haif your opinion how to behaif my self; for this caus I delyverit to Robert Bowes, hir Majesties Ambafs., the copy of sic heidis as wer in our instruções to be fend to your L., quhilk gif ye haif not refavit I fall fend your L. ane other copy to be reservit only to your self. Ineid, it is also the King my Soveranis mynd that my Lord of Lechifters opinion and your L. fuld be specially nfit in all thingis that we haif to propone to hir Majestie, quhilk for my part I fall saythfully keip.

Nixt your L. hes to confidder how La Mot and Maniville, with fundry thair favoraris in Scotland, hes focht to persuad his Majestie to tak ane other cours, and hes maid him mony fair overturis for that effectis. Yet the guid number (quho your L. knawis ar finceir favoraris of this estait) hes sa far prevalit, that now his Majestie is content, be your persuasion, to render him self as it wer to hir Majestie. Gif this be weill accepted (as I doubt it falbe), then fall all our enemeis in Scotland be afchamit agane to spek ane word of the Frenche or Spanifche cours; bot gif it fall out othervyis, then ar all your freindis in Scotland diferedetit for ever. Quhat is the Nobillmennis meaning in this point, quho hes joynit in this caus, I fall informe your L. of at meeting, lyk as also sum of them hes writtin to your Honour, as your L. fall also then se.

Thair is also ane other purpos quhilk I can not writt, quhilk is necesfere your L. knaw befor you gang to court. Gif it might be your L. plefor I vald quietly spek with your L. this nyght for that effectis, othervyis it man be continwit to meeting. I pray the Eternal God blis this werk that na evill instrumentis be abill inpend the fame. The foner your L. might purchas prefence to ws fuld be mest acceptabill, referring the rest to your L. anwser, I commit your L. to Godis blessed protection.

Your L. to be commandit, with service in lesum maneur.

Jo. COLVILLE.

To the richt honorabill Sir Francoys
Welfelinghame, Kny^t, Secretary to
hir Majestie, and ane of her Majes-
ties mest honorabill Privy Counsale.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

PLEIS your Honour, gif credeit to this berar, for he is ane discreit and godly man, and hes supported me muche at this tyme, as Mr George Young hes done also; bot as to the rest of the number quhilk is about his Majestie, favoraris of this guid cours, and worthy to be kept in guid grace and favor, I remit the nomination of thame to James Hudsonis nixt cumming to your Honour, quhom your L. may trest as ane as weill acquent with the inclinations of all men in Scotland as ony other; and sa for the present I pray God preserve your L. From London this Tuyfday.

[1583.
May.]

Your L. ever to be commandit in all lesum maneir.

JO. COLVILLE.

To the richt honorabill Sir Francoyo
Welschinghame, Kny^t, Secretary of
England, and ane of hir Majesties
meist honorabill Privy Counsaile.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

RICHT HONORABIL,

My request is only for this gentill man, your L. cuntreman, quhais guid qualiteis your Honor may perfaik. In cais our dispeche be suddane I man intreat your Honor to put this mattir to sum point, that he may be redy to return with me. Other matteris I refer to his sufficiency, committing your Honor to Goddis protection. From London this 14.

[1583.
May 14.]

Your Honoris ever to be commandit in lesum maneir.

JO. COLVILLE.

To the richt honorabill Sir Francoyo
Welschingham, Kny^t, Cheif Secre-
tary of England, and ane of hir Ma-
jesties meist honorable Privy Counsaile.

STEWART AND COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

1583.
May 20. PLEASE it your Honour, These are the pair complenaris upoun the late piracie committit upoun the fecond of this infant, mentionat in the last memoriall delyverit to your Honour be Mr George Young. Their cace is as your Honour feis it, having nathing left thame in the world except that hope quhilk we have gevin thame of your Honour courtesie and favor to thame at her Majesties hand. Quhilk we man earnistlie protest and pray your Honour to let it be sa favorablie and with sic expedition extendit toward thame as thair present state in conscience and equitie deservis. Thus we commit yow to God. From London this xx of Máy 1583.

Your Honouris richt affeured freindis,

WILLIAM STEUART.

JO. COLVILLE.

To the richt honorable Sir Frances
Walsingham, Kny^t, Cheif Secre-
tary to her Majestie, and one of her
maist honorable Privie Counsaile.

PASSPORT FOR STEWART AND COLVILLE.

ELIZABETH.

BY THE QUENE.

1583.
May 23. Whereas oure deare and welbeloved Collonell William Steward, Cap-
tane of the garde of oure goode brother and cofin the Kinge of Scotts,
and Johne Colvill, gentill men of Scotlande, and ambassadours of late
heare with us frome oure said goode Brother and Cofin, do at this tyme
present, with oure goode favoure and lycence, make there retourne into
Scotland. We will and commande youe not onely to suffer them to passe
quietlie by youe with the number of eight horses or geldings, there ser-
vands, plate, jewells, packs of clothe, trunks, apperrall stuff, and all other
there bagges, baggages, and necessaries, with oute anye your stay lett or

trowble, but also to fe theme furnished for there reasonable monye of able horses for post or journey from place to place as they shall choise to travell, and of all such other things as they shall neade by the waie, wherof we require youe not to fail, as ye tender oure pleafoure, and will aunfwer for the contrarie; and these oure letters, or the duplicate of them, shalbe your sufficient discharge in this behalfe. Geaven under oure signet at our Manour of Greenwich, the xxijth daie of Maye 1583, and in the xxvth yeir of our raigne.

To all Mayors, sheriffes, baliffes, and headboroughes, to the Governor or other cheif officers of our tonne of Barvicke, to the Wardens of our Marches against Scotlande, and to all other oure officers, ministers, and subjects to whome in this case that shall appertaine, and to everie of them.

(*Indorsed*) Copy of Coll. Stewart his pasport, at his returne from hence into Scotland, in June 1583.

THE PRINCIPALL HEADIS OF ADVICE DELYUERED BY HER MAJESTY UNTO CORONELL STUARD AND MR JOHN COLVILLE, AMBASSADOR FROM THE KING OF SCOTTIS, TO BE IMPARTED UNTO THE SAID KING THEIR MASTER.¹

THAT yt shalbe verie necessaric that the matter of affotyacione betwin the King and his Mother for avoyding of daingerous jealousies, alswell abroad as at home, be cleerid out of hand.

That the King be carefull to haue none about him that are inclined

¹ This and the following paper are from originals in the volume of Hopetoun Papers, entitled "Scottish State Letters and Papers."

to violent and bloodie counfellis, for that violence in gouernement cariethe no continuance, and ouermuche feueritie rendrethe a princes gouernement hatefull.

That by the aduice of the States, found and perfect concorde be wrought by interposicione of wyfe and difereete mediatouris betwin his subieçts of qualitee [to] the end they maie all concurre in seeking his preferuacione, and the continuance of the quiet of the realme.

That for the fuertie of his nobilitie, there maie be a generall obliuion of [all] capitall matters passed concerning the publick from the tyme of h[. . .] (except the actuall and most detestable murther of the Kingis father, and two Regentis,) vntill the last of this present monethe.

That he caule about him suche of qualitie as are noted to be relligious, enclyned to peace, and well affected to the amitie betwin the two crow[nis]; and that suche as are inclyned to forrein coorfes, and do oppofe themfeluis [to] the amitie of this crowne, be remouid from about the King, for that otherwyis her Maiefty cannot stand assured of the Kingis frendshippe.

That in this daingerous tyme full of praçises, regarde is to be had that his cheefe castellis be committed into the handis of suche as are not only voyde of partyalitee, but are men that haue bothe good inheritance and are knowin to be relligious.

That whereas the Duke of Lennox feekethe by all the meanes he can to returne into that realme, her Majestie knowing the jealousie conceavid of him by the best affected there in respect of former proceedingis, wherof thoughte her Heighnes wilbe lothe to note him as a principall author, yet is yt ouer manifestlie knowin that most thingis greatlie offenfyve to the subiectis of that realme weare don cheeffie by the countenance of his credit; and therefore foreseeing that yf he should returne before the gouernement shalbe well settled, or that tyme shall haue worne away the hard conceiptis and ieaiousies that are had of him, yt might breede some daingerous alteracione in that state, her Heighnes cannot but aduise the King for a tyme to forbear to yeld his assent therunto, a matter that the Duke himself, in respect of the goodwill he professeth to beare the King, ought to forbear to pres him in, as her Majesty

hathe of late, vppon mocione by him, made for her mediacione, let the Duke verie plainelie vnderstand fo muche.

That being geuen out in forrein partis howe the King reputeth himself to be a person restrainid, and that the Noblemen that removid the Duke and Arran from about him, who, bothe they and their predecessoris, haue alwayes ben knownen to haue ben zealously bent to maintaine relligione, and dutyfullie inclynid to hazard their lyves in defence of the King his gouernement, are noted to the great towche of their reputacione, by fuche as are tranported thoroughge enuye, to be the Kingis capitall ennemyes, yt shalbe most expedient for the King to take some fuche waye of counfell as theis vntrewe and vnecessary brutis maie be suppressed, for howfoeuer the world geuethe out that particular revenge was the grounde of their attempt, yet the effectis do shewe the contrarie, the realme being nowe—thanckis be to God—cleerid of thos jealousies that weare lyke to haue wrought some daingerous eventis, to the hazard of the Kingis person, and the interrupcion of the common quiet, by the kindling of civill warre within the said realme. And suppose yt weare trewe that they had ben caried into the action onlie thoroughge a desier of particular revenge of fuche as then possessed the Kingis care, yet seeing the effectis haue fallen out to the Kingis benefit, he ought rather to weye the generall good that hathe ensued therebie, then any particular wrong that otheris maie pretend to haue receavid by the same; for yf the attempt executed by the said Lordis had any way tendid to the Kingis perill, none should haue ben more readie bothe to haue persuaded and assisted him to haue taken revenge then her Heighnes self, who, as a prince soueraigne, could no wayes haue endured so pernityous an example, yf yt might haue appearid to haue ben fuche as the euent dotlie shewe to haue ben most malityouflye geuen out.

Lastlie, Whereas the best affected subiectis, as well of that realm as otheris in forrein partis that heare of the hard vsage of the Earle of Arran, sonne to the late Duke of Chastellerault, are muche greued withall, the Queenes Majestie, tendering greatlie the Kingis honor in that behalf, cannot but aduise him, as an act worthy of a Christian prince that professeth the pietie and iustice, to see some speedy redresse therin, seeing the said Earle neuer committed crime worthy of forseytured,

being only visited by the hand of God, and therefore deserueth mitigatione of suche extremitie and aduantageis as perhappes, in pointis of lawe, he maie be subiect vnto.

FRA. WALSHINGHAM.

MEMORIALL OF CERTAINE SPECIALL MATTERS RECOMMENDED BY
HER MAJESTIE VNTO CORONELL STEWARD AND MR COLVILL
SENT AMBASSADOURS FROM THE KING OF SCOTTIS.

THAT for the acquytall of her Majesties honour it may please the King that the effectis of the pacification made by her mediacion *in anno* may be duely performed by the restitution of the Hamiltons; and yet with such cautions, by the advice of his Statis, as the King his furtie may be sufficiently provided for; in which poynt her Majestie doth not so much regard her owne honour as that shee seeth it necessary for the King to reconceyle vnto him his Nobilitye, wherby they may not be made instrumentis by forraine practises to disquiet that state. And yet if the King, for some secreat respectis and consideracionis knownen to himselfe, shall not like to have them remayne within his owne realme, that then it will please him to give order that they may at the left enjoye their lyvingis in some other place where they may make their aboad with least suspition to him.

That the meetingis vpon the Borders for the avoyding of the inconvenience that otherwise may ensue may be more frequent then hertofore they have bene, and that the Wardens be commaunded, according to the lawes of the Borders, to see offendours severely punished, and restitution of spoyles committed duely made. That a thoroughe examinacion may be had, in the presence of her Majesties ambassadour, of Holte, who hath bene vsed as an evill instrument to breed and practise alteration in both realmes.

That there be a good Keeper appoynted of Lyddesdale, such an one as shalbe enclined to justice.

That order may be taken that the inhabitauntis in the Isles and north partis of Scotland be not suffered to passe into Ireland and to serue the

rebellis there to the annoyance of her Maiesties good subiectis, and that for their better restraint in that behalfe the owners and lordis of those places may receive such chardge and direction as shalbe thought meetest. That the Parliament appoynted to begin at Edinburge the xxiiith daye of October next may hold at the tyme prefixed; and that by the authoritie therof the forfeitures against the Erles of Anguillhe and Morton, and all others named in that summons and proceffe, may be reduced according to lawe and justice.

FRA. WALSYNGHAM.

COLVILE TO WALSYNGHAM.

PLEIS your Honour, the second of this instant we arryvit at Bernik, where we haif bein wercy weill reseivit, lyke as we wer all the way, wherof we haife trulie to thank hir Majestie; bot at our being in Duram ane gentill man callit Hedvart, accupaneit with sum otheris, injurit ane of our number callit William Keythe, gentill man of his Majesties chalmer, in so outragius maneir as wes insufferabill, wyth werry opprobrius spechis not only aganis that gentill man and his cuntrey bot also disdanfully aganis hir Majesties awn self, as falbe provin gif neid be. The information of the hail matter is trewly sett down as wes deponit befor the magistratis of Duram, quho shew thame self bayth honest and favorable toward our fervandis. I dout not hir Majestie, upon hering the weritie of the matter, will take sic guid order wyth the said Hedvart as may be ane terror to otheris to attempt the lyik enormite in tyme cuning.

I huikit to haif had sum writt fra your Honour for the satisfacion of the Nobill men your Honour freindis in Scotland, quhais hartis ar grevoullie wondit (as I am informit) wyth the deling had wyth the Quein mother, and the Duik of Lenox. Quhat pleis your Honour in hir Majesties name or in your awin to command me wythall in Scotland fall be wyth all humilite obeyit efter my power. Sa presenting my humill commendation of service, I commit your Honour to Goddis blessed protection. From Bervick the third of Jun 1583.

1583.
June 3.

I haif informit James Hudfoun of the matter that fell out at Dura-
ham, quho pleis your Honour trust till your Honour refaif ane other
letter from my Lord Ambaff. and me.

Your Honours awin to be comandit wyth fervice,

JO. COLVILLE.

To the richt honorabill Syr Francis
Welfinghame, Kny^t, Cheif Secre-
tary of England, and ane of hir
Majesties moft honorabill Privy
Counfall.

STEWART AND COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

1583.
June 5.

PLEASE it your Honour, the indignitie of this attempt fet downe heir in
this information, quhilk the party grevit hes gevin ws, of the very treuth
thairof, upon his honestie and conscience; being besydis the privat respect
of the gentilman him self, ane very dangerous exemple to the amitie, as
careing with it na finall incouragement to utheris of sic dispositionn to use
all kynde of infolence to utheris of our natioun resorting thether, quhen
as they fall persave this opin injurie and violence done to his Majesties
specciall servand, yea being in the tryne and company of us his Hienes
ambaffadoris for the tyme, and wherfore be the lawe of nationis inviol-
able, and maist of all cled with her Highnes passport and protection cair-
leslie confidderit of, and put up unpunished. We are movit heiruponn
to be richt earnist futeris at your Honours handis, to cause sic dewe
confideration be had of it as the circumstances thair of in all respectis
defervis. For trewlie it woundis us in our hartis that careing to his
Highnes from her Majestie her consale and nobilitie sic amiable and
loving speachis, witneffis of the gude disposition to the amitie betwix the
crownis and contrayis, his Hienes should in his specciall and tender servand
sic anie effect and pruiif sa difagreand and in appearance evin contrarious
to that quhilk we have to report. Bot trusting your Honour will give

order for his Hienes satisfactioun in that behalf theranent, we pray your L. very hartlie to let his Majestie understand be your awne letters how cairfull we will be to sie it exemplairelie revengit upoun the authors. We tak our leve, ending at our harty and infinite thankis for the gude recueil and intertenment we refavit of your Honour at our being thair, quhilk gif be any meane we may acqyte, your Honour fall finde it in effect quhen as it may please yow to commande ws with any lefull service. To the quhilk tyme we commit your Honour to Goddis proteccionn. From Leith this v. of Junij 1583.

Your Honouris to be commandit with lefull service,

WILLIAM STEUART.

Jo. COLVILLE.

To the richt honorable Sir Frances
Walsinghame, Knyt, Cheif Secre-
tairy to hir Majestie, and one of
her maist honorable Privie Coun-
sale.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

PLEIS your Honour, the insufferabill wrangis full increfing agains our guid subjeçis makkis me to trubill your Honour with so frequent supplications in the part of the complenaris. God grant sum guid order may be takin for remedy of theis debordit pillereis, for certently you ar so mony and agains so guid persons as I cannot devyis ony excuse to quiet the harte of the grevit. This berar is ane man of guid fame, ane faythfull professior of the evangell, and my freind, gif it maye pleis your Honour, for theis causes, to confidder weill of him, I wald humlie request your Honour for the effect. This nycht I haif also hard that ane schip wherin all our stuff wes is also pilleit, bot I can not trest it, as ever it be I trest to se ane guid order ryis of our confusion, and sa for the present resting to trubill

1583.

June 8.

your Honour with langer letteris, I pray God preserve your Honour.
From Dumfermlin the vij of June 1583.

Your L. awin ever to be commandit in lesum maneir,

Jo. COLVILLE.

To the richt honorabill Sir Francys
Wellinghame, Kny^t, Cheif Secre-
tary of England, and ane of hir
Majesties most honorabill Privy
Counsaile.

ANE MEMORIALL OF SIC THINGIS AS WER PILLEIT FROM JAMES
DOUGLAS, SERVITOUR TO MR JOHNNE COLVILL, L., CHANTER OF
GLESLOW, JOYNT AMBASSADOUR WITH CORONALL STEWART,
EMBASSADOUR IN ENGLAND FOR THE TYME, FURTH OF ANE
SCHIIP OF THE PANNIS.

1583. June.	Inprimis, ane peice of broun cullorit claithe, of fevintene yairdis, at xv ^s . sterling the yaird—Inde,	xij lib. xv ^s .
	Item, ane vyn peice skarlett clayth, of ten yairdis half yaird, at xiiij ^s . vjd. the yaird—Inde,	vij lib. xijs. iijd.
	Item, ane peice crammofie cullorit clayth, of sex yairdis, at xijs. vjd. the yaird—Inde,	ij lib. xv ^s .
	Item, ane peice of clayth of ane new yallow culler, of thre yairdis half yaird, at xs. the yaird—Inde,	xxxv ^s .
	Item, ane peice grograne filk, of ten yairdis half yaird, at iiijs. vjd. the yaird—Inde,	xlvijs. iiid.
	Item, ane peice grograne worfatt, of xv. yairdis, at ijs. the yaird—Inde,	xxx ^s .
	Item, xxiiij. pair of nethir knett stockings of worfitt, at xs. the pair ourheid—Inde,	xij lib.
	Item, tua pair of fyne filk stockings, peice,	ij lib. xvjs.
	Item, four peiceis of cullorit fustean, of threfoore thre yairdis, at ijs. the yairde—Inde,	ix lib. ix ^s .

Item, fevin bybillis, quhair of tua coift xxxvijs. the peice, and the remanent xs. the peice—Inde,	vj lib. vjs.
Item, tua fyne bavare hattis, peice,	lijs.
Item, aughtene felt hattis, gray and blak, at xs. the peice,	ix lib.
Item, tua doffane fwerd girdillis damaskit, price of the peice, iijs.—Inde,	xlvijs.
Item, sex gros of cullorit filk poyntis, at iijs. the gros—Inde,	xxiijs.
Item, ane dofine of fyne blak bonnettis, price of the peice, ijs.—Inde,	xxxvjs.
Item, thre jowall fringis, price of the peice, xijs.—Inde,	xxxvjs.
Item, fix dofine blak jeit buttonis, at ijs. the dofine—Inde,	xij s.
Item, thre garneffingis of beidis, and cheinzeis for gentilwomen, price of thame,	xxx s.
Item, ane dofine of brufhes,	vjs.
Item, ane rim of paper of millane, price,	xx s.
Item, ane trunk, and ane coffer, price of thame,	xxv s.
Summa—lxxxiiij lib. xiijs. vjd.	

JAMES DOUGLAS, Servitour to
Mr JOHNE COLVILL.

Memoriall of the guidis takin and pillezeit from James Douglas, servitour to Mr Johne Colvill. Rec^d.
xxv^o Junij 1583.

SIR FRANCIS WALSYNGHAM TO MR BOWES.

SIR,

Whereas the Queenis Majestie hath bin given to understand that there is som matter of unkindnes fallen out betwine Collonell Steward and Mr Colville since their return thence, throughe som ill office that

1583.

July [21.]

have bin don betwin them by fom ill instrumentis in the carryinge of offensive reportis from one to another of them, for the which Her Majestie is very fory, confidringe howe well and dewtifully the Gentlemen did cary themselves, at the time of their late beinge here, in the execucion of such directions as they had from the King thair Master; without intermedlinge in any thinge either with Her self or with any of hir Counsell that mighte any waie tend either to the hinderaunce of his service or the blemishe, hurte, or prejudice of any of his subjeētis, either in generall or particular. Her pleasure therefore is, that if theise hard reportis, so given oute to the hurte and discreditte of the Gentlemen, shall proceed so farre that they them selves shall thinke her testimonie and declaracion of their honest and dutifull manner of proceedinge heere maie stand them in steede, either with the King or any of his Nobility, to mentayn their innocency, and prove the truth of their found dealinge, you shold in that case protest, on Hir behalf, that they did ever cary them selves in that good and dutifull forte duringe the time of their abode here, as before is expresse. And that Her Majestie dothe conceive this settinge of them at variaunce together to be a meere practise purposely devised by fom ill instrumentis that are enemies to the mutuall good amitye betwin the two Crownes, who have perhaps thought it a ready way in fom parte to hinder the happy progresse of the same, to breede jealousies and unkindnes betwin theis two Gentlemen, well affected to the said amitie, whose union and mutuall concurrence might have wroughte good effecte in furtheraunce of the same.

WALSINGHAM TO BOWES.

SIR,

1583.
July 22.

You shall now receive herewith my letter to Dunfermlin mentioned in the dispatch that I sent you yesterday, and another that I do in her Majesties name wryte to your self, about the matter betwin Coronell Stuard and Mr Colvile; wherwith I am also to let you understand that yt is referred to your owne discretion to delyver or not to delyver the letter to Dunfermlin, and to preserve or not to preserve the contentis of the other, as your self shall see cause. The letter to Dun-

fermin, for that as thingis take their course nowe in Scotland yt is to litle purpos to talk of any Treaty which her Majesty would rather take offensively should be in her name motioned or revived, unles you shall fynd the tyme to frame better for the purpos; and the contentes of the other letter, by reason of the imprifonment of one of the partyes, who being nowe fallen into that extremity, I feare we shalbe liable to take litle proffit by the contentis of the said letter; in whos behaulf her Majesties pleasure is, you should deale with the King, as if your self to knowe the cause why he is so severely dealt withall nowe uppon his returne from his Ambassadg here, which maye minister some cause of suspicion that yt is for service don here; where She cannot but witness of the Gentleman that he did cary him self with that duty and honest care of the King his master's service that apperteyned to a faithfull servant, without intermeddling in any thing that maye definedly towche him any waye in credit. And whereas by my former I wrote unto you of some purpos that we had to send an Ambassador thither, we are nowe grownen so uncerten there, that I do not well knowe what will becom of the matter, but this I thinke, that yf any be sent yet will lyte uppon some of the Counsell. 22 July 1583.

Youe are not so resolut there, but we are as irresolut here. Amongest others named for that service I am not forgotten, wherof I tak no great comfort, for that we do not proccede so effectually in our causes of great weight as we are fit.

WALSINGHAM TO BOWES.

SIR,

Your lettres of the xxjth of this present, conteyning the assured proof you have receavid at the Kingis handis, confirmid also by his lyke promise made unto the ministers, that he meaneth to remayne constant in his professed course of goodwill and amity with this throne, and in depending still uppon her Maiesties advice and counsell for the better direction of his proceedings; together with his favorable yelding to release Mr Colvile out of the Castell of Edinborough at your request, have put us in good hope that thingis will nowe take a better course

1583.
July 27.

there then was before looked for. And therefore confidering that the fending thether of a perfonag of quality, as yt was once meant, cannot but be an occafion of new chardgis, I think we fhall now alter our former refolucion in that behalf; and yet I am of opinion that the fending of fuch a perfon of quality would do much good for the better fetling and eftablifhing of thingis in fome fuch good forte as might promife a long continuance of the fame; though for myne owne pryvat refpect I have no caufe but to be glad that this refolucion of fending is nowe brocken of, for that I thincke the burthen of yt would have light uppon me, who, nevertheles to do good, would moft willingly have ufid my travell in the fervice, yf we did here embrace and go through with thingis as effectually as we fhould do. You are nowe, therefore, to excufe as you maye the not coming of fuch a perfon of quality meant once to have ben fent thether. Her Majesty was offendid with me, for that I did direct you not to proceede any further then you had already don in ufing reafonis and argumentis to the King, to make him conceave that her Majesty might juftly take this his manner of proceeding, without her advice or previty, in ill parte; alleadging, that though you had infifted ftill uppon the matter, yt would have don no hurte at all, but rather good, that he that had been fent after fhould have harped lykewyes uppon the fame firing; and therefore you maye do well now to go forward with that courfe, as in your owne difcrecion you fhall fee caufe, and fynd yt moft convenient for her Majefties fervice: having thought good to write the fooner unto you after my laft difpatches, only to geve you knowledg of the ftaye of fending of the perfonnag of quality, whom you maye look for. And fo, &c. 27° Julij 1583.

BOWES TO WALSYNGHAM.

Extract.

1583.
Dec. 10. IT may pleafe your Honour, the King at this Convention wold not enter into confultacion in any weighty caufes before the cummynge of Argyle and Montroffe; who came to Edenborough on Wedensday laft, and litle or nothyng was done in counfell before Satterday laft. At which tyme, they entered to deliberate afwell of the forme and courfe of

gouvernement to be nowe holden, as also what should be further done towardis Anguffe and otheris in the Kingis displeasure, leavyng the fame for that day without any resolution.

* * * * *

The mediatoris betwixt the King and his subjectis in his displeasure, have nowe signified by there letters to Cambuskyneth, Cleysh, and Mr John Colvile, that the Kingis pleasure is, that they shall put in caution to depart before the first of the next monthe, and remayne owt of the realmes of England, Ireland, and Scotland, for thre yeares, with other condicions. All which, and the resolutions of these parties, wilbe signified otherwise to yowe. And therefore I leave all the fame to that advertisement, and to the viewe of these inclosed. Thus, with myne humble duety, I pray God have yowe in his blessed keppynge. At Barwicke, the xth of December 1583.

BOWES TO WALSYNGHAM.

It may please your Honour, That the Lord of Cleish (brother to this bearer, Mr John Colvile), might obey and fulfill th' order prescribed by the King for his departure owt of this realme of England. He was constryaned at this tyme to depart hence, and thereby this bearer was occasioned to accompany hym some part of his way, and after to resort to London, and to your selfe, in whome his onely hope of succour and comforth nowe standeth. I nede not to recount the good desertes and worthynes of this gentleman, that haith faythfully done many good services for her Majestie, and is determynd therein to bestowe and imploy his lyfe and whole power. All which be so well knawen to your selfe, and shalbe hereafter approved by his good offices, as I trust it shall well please yowe to shewe hym favour and helpe; and I am thereby imboldened to commend hym to your goodnes, and humbly to pray yowe to receyve and comforth hym as he haith and will well deserve.

How th'affaires in Scotland have passed of late, and howe they

1583[-4.]
Jan. 1.

presently stand, he can sufficiently informe youe. Besides, I have had some conference with hym for the interteynment aswell of some intelligence there, as also of the most apt and fytt instrumentis for the same. In all which he can and will satisfiye youe at lardge, and with best certenty. And therefore I referre all these thingis to his sufficiency and report, trustynge that upon consideracion of the present state and condicion of matters to be opened by hym, youe will first resolve whether it shalbe good to deale any further in intelligence, and what shalbe done in case youe determine to inploye such as he will name unto youe. I do fynd that myne intelligencers before reteyned, and knawen onely to my selfe, begyn to fall into suspicion, beyng thereby affrayed to contynue there offices. And I see many causes movynge me to seyke to be ridde of this chardge, and chiefly if the by course shall procede as it is looked for. Therefore I beseeche youe hartely, upon sight of the resolution to be taken in this bycourse, it may please youe to procure my dischardge, or otherwise to direct me as youe thynke good, beyng ever redy to serve and do as youe shall appoynt me. The rest, and the enlargement of all these, I commytt to the credit and declaracion of this bearer aforefayd. And thus with myne humble duety I pray God have youe in his blessed keepynge. At Berwicke, the first of January 1583.

Your honouris at commandement,

ROBERT BOWES.

To the right honorable Sir Francis
Walsyngham, Knight, &c.

JAMES HUDSON TO COLVILLE.

SIR,

1583[-4.]
Feb. 17.

Pleis yow to wit my L. Cambuskineth wrat for me to cume to Newcastle, quher he wilid mei, by the first commodety, to advertise yow that he is in mynd to cum secretly and unknawin to London, that he may be advyfid with yow in his profesding. He wald have nane bot

your self to knaw thairof, and wilid hime to mak Mr Secretary acqwayntid thairwith, for caws is, and he referis that to your wil. He wilbe with mei very shortly, to abyd your anwser. Mr Jhon Provan came quhen I was ther, bot knawis nocht of efect. I luik for ane every daye. Sir, forget not to fend me anwser of this with as great speid as ye may, and dereēt your leter to Mr Hayford of Fery brigs, or Mr Nicols of Borow brigs, and it wil cume presently to mei. I think lange til I fei yow, and had fein yow or now, bot for stayinge for your brother Wilyame. Thus commits your Maister to God. At Borow brigs, the xvij of February.

He is myndid to ship at Rye or Dover.

By yours, ever to be commandid,

J. HUDSON.

To the worshipful Mr Jhon Colvill,
give theis.—Mr Aleyne, I pray
yow delyver this with speid.

COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

PLEIS your Honour, This nycht James Roland, merchaut of Edin- 1583[-4.]
borough, is arryvit be fey. He hes no newis from Scotland, faving that March 19.
the hoill countre is mervelus malcontent; and it is neir fourtein dayis fen he came from thence. He is to feik redres for fum piraceis, and hes the Kingis letres for the effect heirof. I thocht good to advertis your Honour, praying the Lord God contineu yow in good helthe. From London, this Thurfdays, at nycht.

Your Honouris wholly to be commandit,

JO. COLVILLE.

To the rycht honorable Sir Francis
Welsinghame, Kny^t, Principall Se-
cretary, and one of hir Majesties
most honorabill Privy Counfale.

THE EARLS OF ANGUS, MAR, &c. TO COLVILLE.

1584.
Dec. 29.

EFTER our hartly commendations. Your advertifement to ws since your departing hes bein fo rair, and sik as we refavit fo fldender twiching the weil and furtherance of our good caus, that we haif takin occasion at this tyme to craif of yow that we may affurritly luik for, in sic heidis of your Instructions as we delyverit to yow. We ar movit to feik the expedition of your anfuer the mair ernistly, becaus the protract of tyme hitherto hes done ws no litill harm; especially quhen fundry occasions wes and may yit occurre for the recoverie of our caus and delyverance of our Sovereane and cuntre, gif the Holie Island had been grantit, or sum other convenient place upon the Borderis, fitt for us to haif delt wyth our freindis and good men of the cuntre, and no indirecēt meanis usit aganis ws for stay of our intelligens. We will desyr yow not to tak it in evill part (seing the hard and incertane proceedingis thair twiches us sua) that ether we man burthing yow wyth slentfulness in not making sufficient informacion of our cause, or that the equite thairof is now dowitz, whom quhairfof we supponit all good men had bein persuadit to haif bein good and honest, tending to the unitie of religion and of bothe the cuntreis. Howsoever the matter gois, in cais the falt be not in yow, we wold be particularly certeseit tharof, that we may resolve upon the nixt remeid; for by this delay, besyd the hafard of our caus, we ar in danger of mony inconvenientis, our lyvis, as we ar informit, indirectly and inhonestly socht, our freindis and servandis at home, for most lycht and frivole causis, executit, men dayly fleing to ws for saistie of thair lyif, we heir in sik penurice, that we ar aschamit to spek of it. Bot we can not burthing hir Majestie wyth the hardnes of our estait, bot thinkis the gret part of our miserie to be wrocht be sic as hes delt wyth Arren this quhyll past, and by sum other instrumentis, enemeis to religion and amite betuix the two cuntreis, howsoever othernyis in outvard schew thai protest. This, for our last farwell at the present; we pray yow to hald ws in no langer suspens. Wyth our most hartly commendations to Mr Secretareis honour, and also gret thankis to him, as gif all thingis had succedit to our expectation. We commit yow to the

protection of Almighty God. From Newcastle, the xxix of December 1584.

Copy of the Lordis letter fend to me
the xxix of December 1584.

THOMAS MASTER OF GLAMMIS TO DAVISON.¹

SIR,

It may pleis you I thocht to hewe cum to yow to Berwyk, and theirfoir I stait this tym onwreting off our proceedingis; bot feing thir young Nobillis hes nocht will to spair me ony tym quhill the[y] refave fun advertinment from Mr John Colwill, quhoun the[y] hewe sent to the Quennes Majestie, I hewe thocht guid to lett yow knaw be letter quhat we hewe doun fen my cummyng, and quhat ar Mr Colwill Instructionis. For feing the gryt guid quhilk alrady ye hewe declarit in this caus, and also off the freindschip quhilk our selwes hes refavit at your handis, I culd nocht, without ourfycht off my awin dewetie, nocht mak yow foirsein off our desyr and supplicatioun to be presentit be word to hir Majestie; quhairoff ye pleis refave the particular in writ from this berair, quhilk pleis you to keip to your self; for nane assurit-ley, nather in curt nor England, hes the sam, for the lack off tym we culd nocht place in fa guid ane forme as necessar war, bot thir will reduce ye to remembrance off sic thingis as I sum tymes hewe bein confusyley declaring wnto you. And fairley I perell that Mr Colwill, quha hes nocht bein in the wrey prewecey off this mater in all pointis wpoun fa schort informatioun as he hes hed off ws, can nocht fa weill as the necessitie requyres, fatiffie all dutes that perewentour in the ewent (althocht nocht in the substance) off our caus may and wilbe mowit. And theirfoir I man maist humilie crewe this at your handis, that it may pleis you, quhansoever your lafer permittis you, to writ wnto my L. Thesaurair, quhoun I wys maist to be fatiffieit, yit that it may pleis hes L., althocht this berair fatiffie nocht his L. in all hedes, yit that it may pleis hes L. to suspend hes jugment wnto sic tym as ather it may

1584.
May 22.

¹ This and the preceding letter are accidentally transposed.

be lesum to fun off thir Nobillmen quha onderstandis the mater best, to resort to curt, or than that ye may onderstand the difficultie, that we all, being heir presentley with you, may satisfie his L. be yow in the sam. For this mekel ye may maist esteme that we nather heff sic affectioun to our cuntrey, nor landis, and freindis at hame, bot gyff their be ony imminent danger, be the help to hir Majesteis estait or hurt to the caus be haiftey remeid, bot we will continew the sam, so that we may persave it nocht to be doun to the disawantage of ws; for than necessitie will compell ws, althocht agains our awin hartes, to draw to ony wther cuntrey, quhair our remanyng wilbe les anger to the Kingis Majestie, quhill we try our selff clein. We luik within aucht dayes for word from Mr Colwill, and than I think, God willing, to wifit you with diligence; and thus prayand you to heve this my ruid letter excusit, for that it is wretein in haist, I commit you, boith bodie and faull, to God. From Newcastle, the xxijth of May.

Yours wholly to be commandit,

THO. M^r GLAMMIS.

To the Rycht worfchipfull Mr Wil-
liame Davidfoun, Ambaffidour for
the Quennes Majestie at Berwyk.

SIR FRANCIS WALSYNGHAM TO COLVILLE.

SIR,

1584[-5.]
Jan. 24.

As you maie perceave by the letters written by my L. of Leycester and me unto the Lordis by her Majestie's expresse comandement, she is somewhat offended with some parte of their L. letter; wherein the Earle of Leycester, who delyvered the said letters unto her Majestie, did verie honourable and frendlie seeke to satisfie her Majestie by layinge before her the distressed estate the Noblemen were reduced unto chesely in respect of the devotion and love borne towards her, whose greived myndes could not be refrayned from delyvering somewhat with passion touchinge their distressed state. The offence taken by her Majestie grewe not of auie mislike she hath of the Noblemen themselves, but for

that she doubteth that not followinge her dyrection touchinge the remove, it will hynder greatlie the course that she is entred into to do them good. And therefore I hope, that feinge this offence hath growen of her Majestie's love towardes them, in respect of the care she hath of their well doing, their Lo. will enterprett it in good parte. And as by my former letter I did wishe you to advise their Lo. to use expedition touchinge their remove, so can I not nowe but renewe the same. And for that my leaveure will not serve to enlarge unto you dyvers reasons to move you to be earnest with their Lo. in that behalf, I have desired Mr Bowes to acquaynte you with the same.

HENRY CARMICHAEL TO COLVILLE

SIR,

Acordine to my deuty I have taine occasion, throw the commo-
dite of my Lord Scroipes poist letters, to vreit unto yow, nocht that I
had any greit mater of importance to vreit, bot only as I have beine
alvays so, am constanet yit to be chargable and trubflum unto yow. I
dout not ye understand my meine tutchin my father's effaires, quhair
into I defyr your Vorship to tak sum cair off, as sum other day, God
villine, ve fall be redde to our power to requyt it.

1585.
May 8.

The hail newes I have vretne unto my Lord of Angufe, quha vill
mak yow forseine, I houp, of them; quhair into I volde, Sir, that ye fuld
confer with my Lord, and vay the precious tym and commodite that
is offerit now unto yow all. Sir, thir thinges I have vretne unto my
Lord ar of certanty; my father is out of Carlisle, ether man the motione
be mad that he may cum bak, or uther vays I to remaine, or ells ye
fall not heir of the procedins. Into other pairtes all thir thinges I
referre unto your Vorship's confideration, and soe I tak my leif, com-
mitine yow to God. Carl[il]se, the vij of May.

Youris Vorship frend til dethe,

HEN. CARMYCHELL.

To the Right Vorshippfull and my
speacial gud freind, Mr Colvill.

JAMES FORRET TO MR BOWES.

SIR,

1585[-6.]
Feb. 2.

Eftir my ham cumming I presentit my letres to my Lorde, quha refavit tham very hertfully, and vas maift content to heir of the cunningge of the gentilman quho vas chofin befoir my parting; for of treuthe, the tyme and neceffitie of the caufe requyris diligence thair in, and that with all expedition he may be furtherit heir for. I find every man fua cauld and fua cairfull of his auin particular, that the generall and gudwill to that eftait in gret danger of periffing, var nocht the only travelling and painnis of your affurrit gud frind Mr Colvill, quho hathe opponit him felf to all the defyris of Frenche opinions and ernesit requreit, bothe of the King and utlir our particular frindis, quho ceffis nevir to preis my Lorde to accept ane utlir condition, not knauin quhat promefe he haid maid to hir Majestie, quhilk he myndis to keipe, and vill evir prefer hir Majestie's guduill to all utlir strangeris, for hir gret favor bestout on him in his trouble. The particularities quairvyth thai perfuade my Lord to be thairis var langfum to recompt; bot thai haif bein fua eftemit be all his [freindis] of fuche effect, that thai maruell upone quhat pretencis his Lo. fuld refuse offeris of fua gret confequence; for if his Lo. haid at this tyme acceptit tham, or nou the favoreris of that eftait haid bein of lytill or na force in this contrey. Think not that I vret as ane affeçit fervand to my Lord and maiftir in this, bot quhen evir the gentilman fall cum he fall be affurritlie informit of the fam, and fall fei that we haif the forces to governe at our vill the eftaite of courte, and that ve refuse maift humble futtis of the especialis heir; bot your gud advocat and auld frind above namit nevir ceffis in doing gud officis for the benefite of the caufe, and at this tyme hes done ane chefe vork, quhairbe he hathe procurrit gret evill vill in thir partis; latt him be recognoiffit, as your Vyfdome thincks gud thairin. My Lord hes promifit to be frind to all thais quhilk Mr Secretarie specifiet to me, and althocht thai haid focht his ruyne, yit for his caufe he vald forgett all kynd of querrelles, and all his lyf remain at his devotione, for his Honor gret favor fehavin at all tymis to his Lordship; and for your auin parte his Lo. hathe commandit me to affuir you that the paine ye tuk

in advancing his fuit, quhilk I maid in his Lordis name, and your gud advys ye gaif me in my particular governing, fall evir bind him to be youris, and to aquyt it with all courtoufie he can; as to my felf, as I fcheu at parting, I fall evir fua remaine, and fall nevir defect frome ane point promifit, as be utheris ye vill be informit. Sua referring all the particularitis to your gret frindis letre, eftir I haif humble kiffit Mr Secretaries honoris handis, and youris, I commit you to God. Frome Edinborough the 2 of Februar 1585.

Your humble to do you fervice,

J. FORRET.

To the Rycht vorfchipfull Mr Bouis,
efquyer, hir Majestie's treforer of
Berveik.

JAMES COLVILLE TO WALSYNGHAM.

MY LORD,

Efter my humble commendatione of fervice, finding commoditie be this berar, I have thoct gud to lat your L. onderftand quhat I have done in the employing of my moyens to have done fervice to the King of Navar; bot the mater being fo hard, and harder nor my proper moyens can do, being prefentlie defirit be the Maifter of Gray to do hir Majestie fervice, I culd do no les then crave your opinion in this behalf, for lyk as ever I have preferrit hir Majesties fervice to al uther, sua prefentlie, gif I can in ony fort be abil to do hir Majestie fervice, being excusit be hir Majestie at the King of Navar, I vil affur your L. that ther fhall be nain mair villing, nor of quhom hir Majestie fhall be mair affurit. The berar can fhaw yow quhat coftis it hes bein to me, and hou litil abil prefentlie the King of Navar is to recompens it. I dout not but your L. vil lat the Quenis Majestie onderftand it fufficientlie, gif it ples hir Majestie to command me in hir fervice, the gudvil I have borne in al hir Majestie adois, and to quhat point I am reducit to for advancement of al hir aëtionis, heir I refer to the fufficiency of the berar, quho knawis it as vil as my felf. I refer al uther thingis to your L. anfur. In your

1586.
Aug. 20.

L. particular remaning as affectionat fervitour as ony your L. hes in England, I pray the Eternel be your L. preferver. From Edinburg, this xx of Auguft.

Your L. maift affurit to be employit withe fervice,

JAMES COLVILL of Eftwemes.

To the richt honorable Sir Francis
Welfingham, Mefter Secretari to
hir Hines.

WILLIAM ASHEBY TO LORD BURGHELY.

1589.
April 18.

By the inclofed, Right Honorable, your L. maie fe what diligence and expedicion the King haith hitherto ufed in profecuting the confederatis, meaning not to defift till he haith ether apprehended them or chafed them out of his countrie. His forces dailie increafe, but the povertie of Scotland will not keape them together. If his abilitie were to paie 4 or 500 foote and 200 horfe but three moneths, he would roote out the pillars of Poperie in this countrie, and fo bridle his difcontented Nobilitie, as thei fhould not be able to tak armes againft him, nor feeke to make his countrie a receptacle for frangers.

Her Majefties healp at this prefent were moft requite and neceffarie to encorage the King in his well difpofed mynde, and to comforte the well affected in this accion, which is not to be delayed in no cafe, for *mora trahit periculum*, in this troublefome tyme, and the adverfaries expect dailie forrein fuccors.

And fo I commit your L. to the tuicion of the Almightye. At Edenborough, the 18 of Aprill [15]89.

Your Honoris to commaund,

W. ASHEBY.

For her Majefties affaires. To the
Right Honorable the L. Bourghley,
L. Thr. of England.
Eden. the 18 of Ap. W. Atheby.

COLVILLE TO ASHEBY.

THIS xxii^d, at four after none, the Lord Dingwall, with M[asters] John Skene, [Peter] Yowng, and Foulter, ar arryvit from Denmarke; quhair thay haif bein verey weill interteyneit, bot ar returnit, to haif resolution in certain heidis concerning that Mariage, quhairin they thinke nocht thair felves fufficientlie infructit. Thai ar in good hoip that all shal end to his Majesties contentment, and the article I thinke which thai mest stand on is concerning the Tocher; bot I knawe his Majestie is fa nobill that he will preferre his contentment to ony commoditie. They have not yet feine the younge Prinsses, becaufe she wes not at the Court. The Erl Marshall, with the Constable of Dundye, remainis at ther pastyme till thir perfonis returne, quhich wilbe with diligence. Yt will yit be aucht dayes or his Majestie can returne to this towne. He hes had good game, which makis his stay the langer. Pleis your L. imput my lang filence to the distace of place and lak of messengers; for I am as well affected to serve hir Majesties servandis and ministers, in all lawfull manner, as ony strainger that ever refavit confort in hir landes. For the present, humbly kissing your L. handes, I pray God preserve yow. This xxii^d of Julye 1589, from Aberden, weray lait.

1589.
July 22.

Your L. to be commandit,

JO. COLVILE.¹

ARCHIBALD DOUGLAS TO WALSYNGHAM.

Extract.

IN this Convention thayr is to be diffired of the Borrowis that thay shal remayn obliged for the Q. to be hir drowrye, extending to the fowm of moyr than sex thousand lib. sterlinge, as it is required. And that thay shal furnishe some fowmis of moneye for the King his vse, at this tyme of his mariage. It is dowbted as zit wheather thay

1589.
Aug. 19.

¹ This "copie of a letter from Mr John Colvile," is collated with and corrected by the mutilated original, mentioned in the foot-note, *supra*, p. 95.

vill aggre to the first, be reffoun it reffawis *tractum futuri temporis*, whearin thay have no releawe, if God shall call vpon His Majestie. Mr Jhone Colville is to be sent hyther vyth expeditione, to persuade Hir Majestie that the mariage of Denneemarke is best, and most profitable for hir weill. And the reffoun of his argument is to tak in vpon this grownd that Colonell Stewarde wrote of onto me at Easter last, which, he did affirm did proceade from the Chancellar of Dannemark to him, at his being thayr; to witt, that the realnes of Scotland and Danne-mark beand joyned to this crowin, is able to yeald suche reffoun to the King of Spayn as may induce him to tak peace vyth hir Majestie. Bot this did appeir to me at that tyme to be *argumentum longe petum*, and thayrfor quhill now I nevir mayd any mention of it. These ar the wordis that I am informed he is to vse; bot in substance his erand is to buye playte and some wther howsholde stufte for the Kingis vse, as beand generall Collector for the ingathering of the Taxation granted for that vse. He is in lyke maner to craue hir Majesteis assistance in lending or gevin of money for this effect. I am also informed be some freynd that he is to requyre my assistance, als weill in requesting at the handis of wtheris that these matteris may be performed, as my pryvat helpe for the doing thayrof, as if I war able to perform any suche mater. Be the faydis freyndis that makis this adwertiment, I am confaled to be absent from the toune at his comming hyther. I am thayrfor effectuallye to pray your Honor that Hir Majestie may be moved to gewe some speadye order, how that I may retyre my self vythowt sclander of my creditoris, whiche is the thing in the vorlde I wold be glaydest to awayde.

ARCHIBALD DOUGLAS TO BURGHLEY.

*Extract.*1589.
Sept. 3.

The reffoun that moves me to absteyn from cumming to your L. my self is, for that I haif promised, induring the aboade of Mr Jhon Colville, nather to com to Court, nather to confale, to the end that I may remain ynnsuspected in ony thing concerning my Maister his effares, in ony mater whearin he is to negotiat, whiche I must pray your L. to reffawe in gud part.

EARL OF BOTHWELL TO BOWES.

MY UERAY GUID L.,

Finding that I could not so quikly repair to Edinbruch as I
 loukit at deapirtur, I thoct guid to fend for Mr Jhone Coluing, that
 be him I nicht aquent your L. with my proceedings heir; quhais fuffi-
 cienci and credit is at both our handis, sic that it schould be onneffesar
 I schould fache your L. with longer letter, bot remit the fanning to his
 declaratioune; fua, my maift humbel and liful feruicis rememberit, your
 L. being committit in the proteccion of the Eternal, maift humbli I tak
 my liue. From Kingkairin,¹ the 8 of Aprayl.

1590.
April 8.

Your L. maift louing freind, lifuli to be employit,

BOTHUELL.

To the Right Honorabil his ueray
 guid L., my Lo. Imbaffador of
 Inghland.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

PLEIS YOUR LORDSHIP,

The 7 of this instant, at my Lordis Bothwellis defyr, I went
 to Kinkarn, althocht wery ewell at eifs. His L. began to regret
 that he fand sum alteration in hir Majesties mynd concerning him,
 and maid gret proteftations of his fincerite, fen his promifs. I wes
 indeid fory, and so I remane, to see him ony way discouragit, w-
 derftanding his courage and good qualites, and how good an instru-
 ment he may be in the com[mon] amite; yit in end, his L. hes
 faythfully pro[mi]fit not to chang his mynd, except sum grete occa-
 sion wer offerit to him on hir Majesties fy[de], whiche I hoip in God
 nether he fall merit [nor] hir Majestie offer to him without just
 caufs. For declaration of his fincerite his L. afluris me he will direct
 out tuay or thre schippis for the purfuit of foche as fervis for the

1590.
April 10.¹ Kingkairin, Kinkarn, Kineardine.

Ligue or K. of Spain. And I am commandit to fay funquhat farder in that matter to your L.; whiche I remit to Fryday, if my helthe may ferve me to trawell, wyth fuchie other matteris as I can not writ.

As to the Iriſche Biſhop,¹ he knowis whar he is, and what he is about to do; althocht it falbe difficill to cary him levand away out of the boundis whar he refetis, yit he may be killit, as I fall ſchaw your L. at metinge. My Lord Bothvell, wyth the Erll Montrofs, the 8 of this infant, ar gone to Dunkell, partlie for that matter; for it is by my Lord Athollis meanis that the Biſhop moſt be had. Bot thair cheife erand is that Atholl and Montrofs may be of new reconciliat, for thair haif never agreit ſen the dethe of Gowry. Whatfoever bruittis be giffin out to the contrary, this is thair principall erand. Thair think alſo to deill ſumwhat betuix Atholl and Arroll, bot thair haif na hoip to ſpeid. Arroll had bein in Callender, at his fiſter the Meſtres of Leviftoun, and the fixt of this infant returnit home. He wes in Kinkarn as he came, bot not as he returnit. My Lord Montrofs had him wery hartly recommendit wnto your L., and hathe alſo giffin me ſum commiſſion wnto your L., whiche I continew to meting. Thus praying God preſerve your L., I humlie tak my leiſ. From Sterling, this x of Apryll 1590.

Your L. awin ſervand,

Jo. COLVILLE.

As Mr Dickſone went to Edinburgh he mett my man be the way, and prayit that I ſuld excuſis his ſilence; for he proteſtit he knew na thing of effect ſence he departit fra me.

To my Lord my Lord Ambaſſador
of England.

¹ The Biſhop of Derry (Redmond O'Gallagher): He viſited Scotland at this time in connexion with the ſchemes for levyng troops among the inhabitants of the Scottiſh Iſles, to aſſiſt the Iriſh inſurgents againſt Queen Elizabeth.

ROGER ASTON TO BOWES.

I HAVE nott lesure to writt att lenth. Gorg Neculfon wil enforme you of al thinges this fer. Late nightt being Mondaye, the th'erle Bodvel entred the Pallas accompened with the Lord of Spott, Mr Jhon Colven, and diweres othes, to the nomber of lx, in armore, afaled the hoves [houfe] in al partes, and tuke so many as they plest, perfood the Chanfleres hoves with grett regor; the K. being almost alon, for al men were att fopper, with drowe him self to the tover, and reinforst the dores in fouch fort as he defended the plafe til the comming of the towne,¹ be whom he was releved. His Majestie is vere wel, presed be God; the Chanfler recovered his chamber with grett difecolty, and defended the same vere wel. There is lettel blod drane, expes Jhon Sheye [Shaw], whoo is flene be Bodvel men. The K. was hardly perfoud; his chamber dore was sett on fyre, and yett defended. We are al leving, God be prest; nott with outt grett danger. There is vii presoneres taken, and one of them a brother of Mr Jhon Colvenes; the[y] are al to be executed this after none.² From Edenbrocht, this Tuefdeye.

1591.
Dec. 28.
(under Dec.
31).

To my L. Embeste, geve this.

BOWES TO BURGHELY.

Extract.

It maye please your good L., That your L. maye see all the letters cominge to my handes from Roger Aston. I doe therfore fend to your L. this inclosed, addressed by him, and delivered by the poste to me this night, at viiith of clocke; and vnderstandinge that the manner of this late outrage attempted by Bothwell, and touched hereby by Mr Aston,

1591.
Dec. 31.

¹ That is, by the Provost and some of the inhabitants, who had assembled for the King's rescue upon the sudden alarm being given.

² Robert Birrell, in his Diary, mistakes the date, but adds, "The Kingis folks tooke 8 men of Bothwell's factiōne, and, on the morrow, hangit them all, without ane assye, betwix the Girth Crosse and the Abbay gait," (p. 26); See also Moysie's Memoirs, p. 87.

together with the companies, and all other circumstances in that inter-
pryse, are alrebye aduertified to your L. and others, by others of good
intelligence, and by Mr Aston (as I heare) or his meanes, I doe therefore
still forbear (as I haue done in my former sent this morning to your
L.) to trouble your L. with anye further reporte of particularities
alrebye (I trust) knowne by your L. in these behalfe.

Beaue it is feene that James Dowglas, larde of Spott, base sonne of
th'erle of Morton, late Regent, Archbalde Dowglas, sonne of th'erle of
Morton that nowe is, and Mr John Colvile, haue embarked themselues,
and entred into this open action. Therefore it is verelye thought that
fondrye personages of greater qualite are pryve to this conspiracye.
And wher, by my former sent to your L. this daye, and by such aduyfes
as I had then receaued, I haue informed, that the Noblemen pur-
posinge to present the newe yeare with an earneste mocion to the K.
aganiste the Chancelour and otheris, had not intelligence with Bothwell
in this fowle attempte. Nowe I ame aduised that theye are suspected
to haue some part in this matter; that the nomber of Erles in the same
action is great, and that therby fodaine and dangerous troubles are lyke
to be kindled in that realme.

BOWES TO BURGHELY.

Extract.

1591. ALBEIT that fondrye of these thinges are certefyed to me, whyles
Dec. 31. theye were in intencion, yet by Mr Aston mencioned theye are comed
to my handes after th'open actions, and in such tyme as I coulde nether
informe your L. in better seafone, nor warne the partyes interessed
therin. And with these I am aduertified that fondrye Noblemen in
Scotland were resolutlye purposed to present the newe yeare with an
earneste mocion to the K. aganiste the Chanceler, Sir George Hume,
Sir James Sandelandes, and other courtiers. Wherin it is thought that
these Noblemen haue not intelligence with Bothwell, nether intend
suche violent course, as he beste lykethe, but rather to drawe on ther
desyres by exortacions and reasons to be opened to the K. and Counfell
asssembled, wherin I haue knowne manye lyke intencions to haue bene

fodainelyc laide afyde; fo some of good experience thincke it maye nowe come to passe. But by these occasions, it is lyke that the Parliament shalbe ether proroged for some tyme, or ells muche disquieted. And by some of my frundes I was giuen to vnderstand that the K. defyring to holde the Parliament at the daye lymyted, was amynded to send the Q. to Dalkethe, and remaine himself at Holyrodhoufe with some few chosen of the Nobillitye, and to call to the Parliament suche other members as were well effected to the matters to be proponed. It is written to me that a newe garde shalbe erected for the tyme of this Parliament, and that Maxwell offrethe to fynde 100 horfmen towards the same.

BOWES TO BURGHELY.

Extract.

THE K. hathe bene informed that Mr Colvill is riden into England towards the Courte ther, and that the Maister of Graye purposeth, and is in redines to followe; wheruppon he is presentlye possessed with troublesome conceipte, from the which I truste vpon myne accessse sufficientlye to deliuer him, and wherin, for his more full satisfaccion, and for myne owne dereccion, to temper it to her Majesties beste lykinge. I praye your L. to giue me some light and advyce. As yet I haue not bene with his Majestie; but I am appointed, sithence his cominge hither this daye, to come to morrowe to him. Thus, with myne humble dutye, &c. At Edenbruch, xxv^o Julii 1592.

1592.
July 25.

Your L. whollye bounden and at comaundment,

ROBERT BOWES.

To the Right Honorable the L.
Burghlaye, L. Thesaurer of Eng-
lande.

BOWES TO BURGHELY.

Extract.

THE ERLE of Arroll is comed to the K., agreeable to th'expeñciacion certified by my former. And I am informed that Mr John Colvill hathe

1592.
Oct. 10.

remained fondrye dayes in this towne of Edenbroch, and travelled with th'erle of Marr, for managing the voluntarye surpryse of Bothwell in forte as before I have aduertised to your L. This matter is kepte verve secreet, cheflye amongste the courtiers, wherof some would perswade me that no suche matter is intended. Therefore I leaue the fame to th'experience of the successe, and the reporte of all occurantes in this rode, to th'aduertifmentes of th'officers fo neare partes of the Kinges marching, as they maye certefye with beste expedicion and certentye.

To the Right Honorable the L.
 Burghlaye, L. Thesaurer of Eng-
 lande.

BOWES TO BURGHELY.

Extract.

1593. It is further informed me, that the K. sekethe earnestlye to drawe in
 July 20. Mr John Colvill from Bothwell, to th'intent Bothwell might be lefte to his owne course, without the counsell and helpe of Mr John, who the K. thinckethe to be sworne English, and aboue, to haue caried vnto and advanced Bothwell in Inglande. That hitherto no fitt instrument can be founde to worke with Mr Colvill.

BOWES TO HUNSDON.

1593. It may please your good L., yesterday, in the morning, th'erle Both-
 July 25. well and Mr John Colvill was brought to the King in his chamber, by th'erle of Athole, Ocheltre, Makiuntofhe, Angusse, Williamfon, and others, whom the Ladye Athole helped well to gett the back gate opened for them, by her repayr from the Court to her motheris house, adjoyning to the Halyrudhouse. It is sayd, that the Duke, Marre, and Spinye wer pryve to it, yet they do all (and especially Marre) deny it. Bothwell submitted hym selfe with all humillitye, and the rest intreated earnestlye for him; wherin the K. at fyrst shewed him selfe resolute to endure the greatest extremitye then to receaue him in that manner.

Bothwell therfor offered his head to be slyken off with his own swourd, and Ocheltree shewed him selfe redy to execute that, if the K. would not take compassion one hym, vpon his humble submission and ther earnest peticions. The K. feing that, ther fayr wourdes pearced his hart, and receaving fundrye conditions, was contented to take him and Mr John Colville to mereye and grace, which was soone published by proclamation in Edinborough, and they wer relaxed from the horne.

Now the Duke, Athole, Bothwell, and th'others, remayn about the K. and kepe the house at Halyrudhouse in quietnes. Bothwell came into this towne the same day, and was with exceeding great joye receaved of the people. What shall enfew of these things it is not knowen; and hearing that otheris knowing all particularyties hearin better then my selfe, haue largely and amplye shewed your L. therin. Therfor I omytt to truble your L. further with the same. Thus, with my humble dewty and service, I pray God preserve your L. At Edinborough, the xxvth of Julye 1593.

Your L. wholly bownden and at commandment,

ROBERT BOWES.

To the right honnerable the Lord of
Hunfdon, L. Chamberlain of her
Majesties houshold.

BOWES TO BURGHLEY.

IT MAY PLEASE YOUR GOOD L.

This daye I receaved your L. laft of the xixth hearof, forbearinge to repaire this daye to the K[ing], in regarde that th'ambaffadors for Denmarke were appointed to have audience, and that I rested this daye, to trye whether th'erle Bothwell or Mr John Colvill would fende vnto and feike to have anye intelligence with me. But hitherto they have not offred ether speiche or message to me; yet Bothwell supped yesternight in the next house to my lodginge in Edenbroch, and visitted not th'am-

1593.
July 25.

baſſador of Denmarke, then at ſupper with me. Atholl and Forbes haue ſpoken with me hearin.

Bothwell and the reſte poſſeſſe the K. and Courte in quietnes. The K. ſeade the and ſatiſſyethe himſelf litherto with the hope of performance of the promiſes of Bothwell and others with him yielding to obaye and fulfill the Kingis pleaſure. Yet it is demed (and ſome tell me) that this manner of ſubmiſſion made by Bothwell and Mr John Colvill flickethe in the Kingis harte; and that uppon ſondrye particuler mocions offred, and not verye pleaſant to the K., he hathe ſent an eſpeciall perſon to Bothwell, to let him knowe that his good behaviour hear-after ſhall give him cauſe to thincke Bothwell worthye of the grace given him, and notwithstandinge that the ſame was much againſt the Kingis honour. It is thought that the commoditie of this ſodaine change in Courte ſhall impeache the courſe laide before and at the Parliament in the fauor of Anguſſe, Huntlay, and Erroll; but moſte thincke that Anguſſe and Erroll ſhall creipe from the forfeitures, and that the paine falling on Huntlay ſhall lye onely on his perſon, ſo as his inheritance ſhall come to his wyfe and children. In this behalf, and to redreſſe th'inconueniences feared to enſewe by progreſſe of the Spaniſh courſe, and breche of th'amity with Englande, ſome wyſe and good men haue deliberated and truſted to haue founde in tyme and with pacience ſome remedye by other meaues then this newe alteration (utterlye unknowne then) offreth. But nowe moſt men wiſh that occaſion of reformation and prevention of the dangers appearinge maye be taken in the beſte advantage by the benefit of this change in Courte, wherin, as ſome of quallitye, and purpoſely (as I thincke) ſent to me, hathe conferred inwardly with me, ſo I haue laide before them an advyſe, not only to preſerue the K. from the diſhonour and ruine haſtelye cominge uppon him (with evident overthrowe to the common cauſes) by the progreſſe of his preſente courſe. But alſo to waſhe out the blemiſhes ſtayninge the Kingis honor by this laſt Parliament, and otherwyſe. This was lyked; yet it is uncerten what ſhall ſuceid theron, in regarde the good Barrons, Burghs, and Kirke muſt be intertayned hearin, and ther myndes are not yet knowne.

The King, at firſt preſentation of Bothwell, ſhewed him ſelf reſo-

lute rather to endure death or other calamities, then to suffer the dishonour followinge his acceptance and pardonninge of Bothwell in this manner. Theron th'erle offered his heade to be stricken of by his owne sword; and Ocheltree shewed himself redye to execute the same, if the K., after suche humble submission and faire promises, would command him. These sweet wordes and offers, the K. faide (as is tolde me) so perced his harte, as he receaved Bothwell to his grace. The D., Marr, Spynye, and Carmichell, denye to be privye to this interpryse. And that the K. semethe to be sufficiently persuaded in their innocencies, yet manye thincke that the K. still in harte distrusteth them, and that Carmichell's peace was before made with Bothwell by the meanes of Angulle. And Carmichell is nowe at libertye, but he shalbe charged to depart from the Courte. The K. moved to drawe in Capten James Stewarte, first gently checked Ocheltree for the motion, and after sent one to Bothwell, to knowe if he woulde so begin to offend the Queen of Englande, the Kirke, and Burghs of Scotlande, by bringinge in Capten James, whome they coulde not brooke. But Bothwell answered, that he would not proceed further therein.

The K. pressed the D[uke,] lyenge in bedd with him this last night, (as is tolde me) to agree with the Chancelor at his request, as he hadde agreed to receave Bothwell at their petitions; addinge, that he had before fought to bringe in the Chancellor, and that Bothwell was thus hastilye brought to stopp it. And being pleased thus to receave Bothwell, he shall sustayne double dishonor if the Chancelor shalbe barred, wherby the K. thereby shall see plainlye that these Lordis care little for his displeasure or shame. This matter is referred to Bothwell. It is faide, that Marr tolde the K. that they woulde redelye agree with the Chancelor, if he would leave the L. Hamilton; wherwith the K. was greived, fayenge, that he was K. to the L. Hamilton (in whom he founde no faulte) as well as to the Duke and the reste. The matter remayneth in th'answer of Bothwell. But the Chancelor, doubtinge the worste, hadde removed quietlye from Ledington yesternight to place not yet knowne.

This day were present at Counsell the Duke, Atholl, Bothwell, the Lords Ocheltree and Spynye, the Prior of Blantyre, and Mr John Col-

vill, who fupplied the place of the Secretarye, and fo clofelye kepethe the actes refolued, as I cannot gett anye coppie or knowledge therof. Therefore all matters nowe proceedinge in Counfell and Courte are clofed from me, and may be happely opened to fome instrumentis better acquainted with Mr John [his] proceedinges then I have bene.

The K. this daye gave audience to th'ambaffidors of Denmarke in the garden. Th'ambaffidors intended to have departed veye fhortelye, but nowe they purpofe to remayne fome tyme, to fee what procedeth in this alteration. They appeare to be well devoted to hir Majestie, and lyke not well of this change thus happened.

I intend (God willinge) to crave audience to morrowe. Theron, and in all other occurraufes, I fhall give your L. further advertifment.

The condition of this tyme and estate requyrethe advyfed and fpedye derections to be given to me howe to carye my courfe, as well to the K., Bothwell, and Mr Colvill, as alfo for the common caufes. It may therefore pleafe your L. to derecte me fpedely in all thefe thinges. Thus with myne humble duty and feruice, I pray God preferue your L. At Edenbroch, the xxvth of Julie 1593.

Your L. wholly bounden and at commandment,

ROBERT BOWES.

To the Right Honorable the L. Burgh-
ley, L. Thefaurer of England.

THE EARL OF ATHOLL TO BOTHWELL.¹

MY LORD AND LOVING BROTHER,

1593.
Oct. 8. Seing the number and credeit of thir Spanis factionares increffis bayth about his Majestie and througout the realme, it is hie tyme remeid wer provydit. I have, as your L. knawis, refifted thame to this hour, without help of any man; bot now thai haue fo prevaled in credeit, that thai ar lyik to mak the K. our Sovereane our partie, to the

¹ The body of the letter is in Colville's hand.

imminent perrell of religion, of his Majesties awin estat, and amitie withe that most gratius and benigne Quein of England, by whos wifdome and power bothe his Majestie and trew religion hes bein within this realme to this hour mantenet. For this caufs I befeik your L., by the meanis of Mr Herie Lok, to deill with hir Highnes for preventing of theis inconvenientes in sic form as best lyikit hir Majestie; protesting wpon my fayth, honour, and trewtie what your L. shall conclud with hir Highnes in the premises, by band, promifs, or contract, I fall hald hand wnto to my wttermost power, not only for my self, bot for the Erllis Gowry and Murray, the Masteris of Montrofs and Gray, the Lordes of Innermey and Forbes; for whom, as for my self, your L. shall send wp this letter, for testimony and record, to be inviolably kept in maneir forsaid. Signed at Dunkell, the 8 of October 1593.

ATHOLL.

To the right honorabill my loving Brother, my Lord Francis Erle Bothvell.

BOWES TO BURGHEY.

Extract.

ALL matters touchinge th'erle Bothwell I referr whollye to the reporte of Mr John Colvill, who (I heare) is purposed to haste and come to your L. with causes of weighty importance, and which he offrethe bothe to imparte and also make evident to your L. for hir Majesties seafonable warninge and benefitt. If his service and good endeavour shalbe founde worthy gracious confidderacion herein, then the present condicion of his distrested estate wilbe feyne neidfull to be speidely releyved; which I right humbly commend to your Lordschip's tynely and favorable furtherance.

1593.
Nov. 23.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

RIGHT HONORABILL MY GOOD LORD AND MECENAS,

The sufficiency of the bearer lettis me to writ sa ampillie as I vold othervayis do. He can declair how curagiusly and reverendlie

1594.
April 6.

Bothuell and Ochiltry have behaved thame self in this last journey; who, albeit thai culd not without hafard of his Majesties perfon achieve thair victorie; yit the hoip we have that avin the freindis failling at the first, and the credeit we have gottin by that interpryis, fall effectuat the work within few dayis, as this berer can at lenthe declair; bot howsoever thai have ben tardy and flewthfull, who hes promefed (which indeed I do think hes procedit wpon intercepting the letters of aduertifiment fend to thame); yit, sen we have not manqued in our dewite, we wald knaw what regard thalbe had to ws, ether in forder imployance in that service, or support during our distres; bot certenly I beleif the benevolence of frendes, and our awin necessites, shall move ws to action, albeit the enemy be bot too weill prepared, which we shall alway follow out with fuche deuntifull respect to our Soveranis honour and fartie as by hir Highnes is commandit, and our dewite dothe oblis ws unto.

To illud hir Majestie, the ministry, and all honest men, sum form of perfuit is externally shewed to perfew theis Papistes; bot the cheif courtrees being thair speciall freindis, what sincerite can be expected in that doing moir nor was at the last raid maid on thame; wharin the first night his Majestie came to Aberdeen for perfuit of Huntley, the same night Huntley wes in his chamber.

Alvay, whatsoever couris hir Majestie thinkis meit to follow out in our estat, having notice how far I shall bend my credeit, I rest to be commandit as hir born subjeet, and to vse my credeit whar I am to that effect. And thus humlie taking my leif, I commit your L. to Goddis blessed protection; this 6 of Apryll 1594.

Your L. homill fervand,

JO. COLVILLE.

To the richt honorabell Sir Ro. Cecille,
Knight, one of hir Majesties most
honorabill Privy Counsaile.

HENRY LOK TO COLVILLE.

1594. I RESAIVED, good Brother, your lettres of the 24th of the last, with
July 3. which I acquainted your Meceanas, by whos fauorable relation hir High-

nes hath notis of your constant care of the amity and preferuation interly of the good caws, which is both gratinly accepted of, and your continuans in the same course (as also best indenor, by frequent lettres, to giue mature notis how thingis pas), is nothing dowpted of. As for N. (Bothwell's) courses, howbeit, by foundry relations thay might be suspected, yet hir Majesty looketh not for any action from him prejudicial to the amity (however his private estates compel him to imbrase different meanes for his relefe), fins hir cariadg towards him and his hath not bin altogether unfriendly; much les doth she think he wil giue the King and al good men cause to note a factious spirit in him, by joyning in amity with the Kingis now proclaimed rebels and Godis enemies; from al intelligens with whome, in formor more extreme necessitis, his own honor and moreis particular had so presiffly refrayned him. And for that your present estates is gratinly considered of and regarded, your Honoris Mefenas hath now bestowed of his bownty 40^l sterling on yow, which Mr Deane, or soon other, shal forthwith conuay [to] yow. And thus, hoping to here dayly from yow, in yowr former maner, how things goe, and most hartily saluting yow and yowr poore exiled bed-felowe and dafter [daughter], I commend yow to the Almighty. From Coort, the 3 July, 1594.

Youris ener louing Brother,

HENRY LOK.

Mr Gouerner wil conuay yowr lettres, being difereatly conuaid vnto him, for furtherans of which I wil craue Sir R. C. direction farther to him of refait of this mony. I pray yow, by the next after the paiement therof giue notis.

Indorsed.—My Lr. to J. Colvill, the
3 July, Grinwieh, 1594.

H. STEWART OF WHITELAW TO COLVILLE.

FATHER,

Efter all hertle commendatione, my Lord [Bothwell], the xx 1594.
heirof, going in to Edinbrowehe, spetialle commandit me, in hes nem, to July 26.

prey yowe abowf all to keipe forwart intelligence ther in Ingland, according to the conclowfion fett downe betwex yowe; for the deleing with that eftett he leyis onle one yowe, promefing qwat yowe fey in hes nen fell be as he haid feillit and fowbferiwit itt; and as he dellifs att home with otheris he weill be me, from tyme to tyme, adwertifs yowe. Hes L. onderftandes that fundre ill reportis weill be meid of hein, the quhilk he preyis yowe oppon yeowr felf, fen yowe knawe hes manner in all thingis. Soe I commett yowe to Godis protecióne. From Leidifdell, the xxvi of Jwlai.

Yowr lowing founne,

H. STEWART of Qwhaytlowe.

To my father, Mr Johnne Colwille.

JEROME LYNDSEY TO [COLVILLE].

SIR,

1594.
Aug. 16.

The commiffion quhilk I vreit of befor is trew; for the Gentillmen them felfis, at ther landing, vreit to the toun of Aberdein, defyringe libertie to pas throch them, becaus they ver directit from fa mony Catholik Princeis to the Kingis Majestie. Ther is ane greit delinge betuix Sir George Heum, Thomas Erkin, Patrik Murray, and Sir James Chefom, vith fum vthers of the Papiftis quha remanis at Dumblaine. The thre Earlis ar feereitlie byinge armour, and feinge horfmen. The leuk¹ for Spainzeartis to ferue them for foutment.² They ar in greit houpe, and lauchis at all that is deun³ aganift them heir. They ar beufter dealinge the Proteftantis landis heir, nor the King is in dealinge of thers. They haue meid ther catollogis of fic as they vill fley, and fic as they vill faue. Thir thingis I haue of the minifter of Aberdene,⁴ quha cam heir on Tyfday laft. I am put in houp to be fet vpon fum armour, quhilk they haue coft heir, and fum foldartis that ar hyrit to go to them. Aduer-

¹ They look.

² Footmen.

³ Done.

⁴ Peter Blackburn.

teife me quhat ze vill counfell me to do into it. The rest to my Faider's¹ cumminge fra Streuelinge. Fairveill.

Zour auen,

PUDICUS, [JEROME LYND SAY.]

The 16 of August 1594.

ABSTRACT OF LETTERS FROM SCOTLAND.

ARGYLE and Marr came to this Convencion, ended with purpose to haue removed the Chancelor, the Maister of Glamys, Sir Robert Melvill, Glenclowden, and the Provoste of Edenbroch, and with hope to haue wrought the same with the Kingis allowance; yet they are departed without anye highe countenance or mocion. So, as the storme expected is hitherto blown ouer, nevertheless the mallice fo increaseth amongst these partyes, as the fead is lyke to be quyckened with blood, and to the trouble of the countrye. Bothe these partyes truste in the fauor of the King. The Chancelor moved himselfe to the King, and receaned comforthe to his contentement; yett the King intendethe to ryde to Marr at Sterlinge, and for Marr's satisfiacion, otherwyse Marr and his frindes, buyldinge still on the Kingis goodwill to them, will end the matter with the Chancelor and his partye, in forte, as great troubles are lyke to ensue theron. Mr John Colvill is demed to blowe the coales to rayse the flame. It is thought that the King will not imbrace or prefer him, notwithstanding that he vndertakethe to entrapp Bothwell for the expedicion; wherof one, sometyme familiar with Bothwell, is sent out, with expectacion of wished successe therin. Mr Colvill abydethe in Leithe, vsinge no publique places, in regarde that his commission (by the Chanceloris meanes) is not yett published; and that Bucklewgh and Celforde (at th'infligacion of the Chancelor) haue greatlye boisted him; which boistinge and roughe dealinge they haue denyed to the King. Yet Mr Colvill, confidentlye weighing these proceedingis, stand-

1594.
Dec. 3.

¹ David Lyndsay, Minister of Leith.

ethe in small feare, thinckinge to be sufficientlye garded with the strengthe of his frindis. Some of the Churche thincke the King to be of this plott with Marr, which they lyke not, in respect that it will endanger the common cause. That they knowe none fitt for the Chanceloris roome; and that by this change the hazard muste be endured by the worthynes of vntried persons. The Churche beginnethe to conceave well of the Chancelor, which by some is imputed to be obtained by his flattery and the Ministeris facilitie. In pulpittes they persuade earnestlye the Noblemen to caste of ther particulers, and bend ther travells and forces agauiste the common enemyes. And these thinges beinge objected againste Mr Colvill, he vtterly protestethe to haue no dealinges therein. It maye be that all these stormes may be soone calmed, and for the same mocions are made, the succes wherof is hitherto vncertayne.

ROGER ASTON TO BOWES.

1594.
Dec. 3.

ALTHOUGH I haue writen vere lattly, yett becaues your servantt lett me to understand of sum letteres to be sentt to you, I could nott onett the commodity. My last was of the penultt, wherein I fertefid you of the presentt estatt of this cuntrie, so fer as was profeded in this Convention, which is noue ended, with outt any matter of concequences, ondly to forlye houe moyun¹ maye be fond to entertene the forses in the North. The comming of Argill and Mar was to another end, but could nott acomples there ententt. They are returned withoutt moission of any matter. The Offesares of Estatt, perseving theme selves to be in some danger, led al there hedes together. The Chanler and the Maister of Glames are all one; Beclouke and Sefford are here counnaing the Chanler: watt maye come here after, God knowes; but this forme is past. Mr Jhon Colven is not idel; for the hatred is so grett betuim the Chanler and him, as he thinks he shal never gett creded so long as the other hath it. The marke he fowtes att² is to be Secriter. I cannot be persuaded thatt the K. will prefer him. He has vndertaken

¹ To forsee how moyun, or means.

² He shoots or aims at.

to betre¹ th'erle Bodwel, wich maye make his credeit or nott. He comes nott in poplike,² butt remenes in Leth. The Lerd of Baclouke has geven vp with him for the Chanfleres caues.

Cronal Stouartt is to be sentt to the Stattes, to craue there con-
corranes. Letteres are come from Bordouex, declaring that Mr Water
Lenfaye is aryved in Spene, and past to Courtt. The Secriter arivitt
here the last. He hath mad good reportt of al; butt his despatch
nowayes contentes many. The K. thinks there hath nott bene thatt
confederasion as his accelines hath merreted. I writt to you the troth
of all thinges. I wrott to you of some brewtes thatt was here of an
Embaster of Spene thatt shoud have bene in London, butt noue we are
persuaded to the contrary. I have delevered a letter to Gorg Neccolton
from the K., to be sentt to you: with al, he has desierrt you to be a
mene to her Majestie for Walgref the prentter, as be his one letter you
shal vnderstand his mynd att more lenth. I vnderstud be Mr Hodfon
of your fethful deling with her Majestie in my behalfe, with her
Heygnes graciowes confederacion of my onnest serveses, wich hath geven
my fo grett counfortt as I shal hafard my lyfe and al I have to do her
serves. Lett my know watt becomes of your selfe, wether you are to
retorne or nott. I gave you my frendly advise in my last; nott butt
thatt I wold be glad of your comming, but I wold wise you to come, fo
as you mowghtt do her Majestie serves, and counford al good men. No
one wil be fo wileome as your selfe. If you come nott, let me know her
Majesties plesower, and to whom I shal adres my letteres, if you departt
any waye of courtt. You know watt danger it is for me to writt, and
watt praetes there has bene to overthroue me be my one³ contremen, as
be the entersepting of my letteres did apere, as you can bere witnes;
yett for her Majesties serves I wil hafard all. I will not trouble you fur-
ther att this tyne. As ocaasion serves you shall here from me. And fo
I commett you to God. Edenbrowgh, the iii of Desember.

Yours ever,

R. A.

To my L. Embaster.

¹ Betray.

² Publick.

³ Own.

² L

JAMES HUDSON TO CECIL.

*Extract.*1594.
Dec. 4.

I FYND Mr Jo. Colvil to deffyd in the King, and to dispaer of the L. Chanceleris frendhip; and so, leaninge to the howfs off Manand,¹ Sir Gorge Home, is ready to blowe vp a new fyre amongift theme.

I ame informid by the Secretary that Mr Colvil hath laid as muche oppin as he knowithe of the maner of the caryadge of all matters with Bothwel, and what so euer els he knowith, ether of ower estaet or the governers therof; but becaus this comes thatwarde, I wil giue it no bakkinge.

JA. HUDSON.

To the Right Honorable Sir Robert
Cicill, Knight, one of his Majesties
most honorable Cownffel.
Despach with sped.

ADVERTISEMENTS GIVEN BY SEVERALL LETTRES FROM EDENBROCH,
DECEMBER 1594.1594.
Dec. 12.

By these lettres it is agayne confirmed that the complot of Argyle, Marr, and other Noblemen (banded to haue displaced the Chancelor, and other principall officers of Estate and in Courte), failed in the execution intended at the laste Convencion at Edenborough. For the cause thereof, it is alledged, that with the advyces of the laste Clarke Register and Pryor of Blantyre (who nowe absented himselfe, and will not be feyne medlinge herein), the K. was enduced to assent, and to vndertake by his owne meanes and acte to remove the L. Thefaurer and the Comptroller of his Houfe from ther offices. And Marr imbracing the fame, did drawe Argyle, Montros, and Glencarne to fecond this cause, then bent only aganiste the Thefaurer and Comptroller. But thair bothe havinge a pyke againste the Chancelor, and also pricked forwardes by Mr John Colvill, fought to change the Chancelor and Secre-

¹ Evidently Manderston; that is, Sir George Hume of Manderston.

tary, with th'other officeris; which purpose Montros (then in frindshipp with the Chancelor) revealed to the Chancelor, who, albeit that he held alwayes assured affyaunce in the Kingis good will, yet he entred into newe reconcelliacion with the Maister of Glamys. He fortifyed him selfe, and appointed his frindes to meit and be with him on the xvth hearof (being the firste day of the next Convencion); and the K. perceavinge this course to be taken as well aganiste the Chancelor and Secretary as aganiste the other officeris, did theron alter his mynde, passinge over the mater without anye mocion, as was expected. Sondrye haue thought and confidently certefyed that this interpryse shalbe attempted at the next Convencion at Edenborough.

But by the laste lettre of the xiiith hearof, it is nowe certefyed that Marr, uppon especial aduertisement by the King, is stayed, and restinge vpon newe warninge (and which the King promisethe to fend shortlye), cannot come to the next Convencion. And thus it is thocht that this accion shalbe delayed vntill the end of this moneth. And it is certainly affyrmed that they will not end without alteracion, and that the Kingis mynde is constant with Marr aganiste the Chancelor. Many other thinges touchinge this interpryse are noted and written. But as the progres and successe of all the same are doubtfull, so the reporte of the particularities maye be thought needles.

Mr John Colvill is to be sent by the King to the Duke with suche errand, as by the next shalbe discovered. His pardon is not yet published, and thereby he keipethe him self covertlye and in quyett. In his letters severall advyces are given, with diverse mocions, wherin he requyrethe to be answered and satisfyed.

MEMORANDUM IN THE HANDWRITING OF SHEPERSON, CLERK TO
ROBERT BOWES.

FOR THE KING.

1. Any answer to her Majesties lettre shalbe procured.
2. Any answer to the Kingis lettre for the prynter.

[1594.
December.]

3. Any acceptacion of his acions to be signefyed.
4. Any horses to be offred as is advyfed.
5. Any anfwer to the Secretaryes lettre.
6. Anfwer to Sir George Hume's lettre, as is expected.

THE QUEEN.

1. What anfwer to be giuen to the Queen's letter.
2. Whither any complement for the kyndnes offred.
3. Whither any anfwer to hir lettre for Waldgrave.

ARGYLE.

1. Plackard for horses, and howe many.
2. Horses to be giuen; howe manye.
3. Th'order for the manner of the gifte.
4. What anfwer to his lettre to me.
5. What fhalbe further requyred of him for Ireland.
6. Amend the note of names troublinge Ireland.

ROGER ASTON.

1. His service and lettres to be kepte.
2. Howe farr he may be comforted.

MR JOHN COLVILL.

1. Howe he fhalbe kepte interteyned or lefte.
2. The fmall propyne intended for him stayed.
3. What answers to his lettres and requestes.
4. The Capten and Leyvetenent to be remembered.
5. Thomas Tyrye's retourne.

L. HAMILTON.

1. Howe the L. Hamilton fhalbe fatiffyed.
2. In what manner, howe, and by whom.
3. The L. Margrettes Nevelle's requeste.

CAMPBELL OF LAWERS TO COLVILLE.

RIGHT HONORABIL,

My hartlie commendatiounis presentit. Forfamekill as I consider the purposis proponit be yow anent Iyrland to be for the benefeit off religion and anetic betuix the tua realmes, and guid service to the Kingis Majestie my Souerane. I remember my self, quhere I am haibill and willing to do, with Godis help thairin, quhilk he fall signefie to my Lord Wmbaffator, and affirme in my name, reservinge ane coppie heiroyf beyd your selff for our ground and remembrance. 1595.
Jan. 16.

The aucht heiroyf thair came ane messinger to my Lord and Cheif frome Oneill Odoneill, and Odochartie defyryng to know my Lordis estait fen the last battell, and gif M^cKondochoy was flaine (as thay haird he was), becaus he had done thame oft sua guid service in Iyrland, to be guide to his wyf and bairnes, and to fend ouer sic of thame as war meit for the weiris. Requyryng also, this Spring, some ayd of men, for quhilk he suld haif his yeirlye tribute and thair help agane, as he had to do. To this was anfuereit, that his L. wes in guid helth; thanked thame for thair freindlie message, and that M^cKonndochoy was not flane. For sending ouer of supplee, that he could not be heafalie abill to do onie thing thairin without aduys of his freindis; and sua the message is returned.

This is the present estait; bot to mak all fuir, to the end the Wmbaffator may commit that mater onlie to yow and me vsing greitour povaris, as thay may mak for him all quitlie, and no vther vayis, this mekill fall be promittit and fulfillit on my pairt.

I fall presentlie gange to the Iyllis, quhair the messinger forsaid zit is, and will deall with him, to know thair counfell, and with Donnald Gorme, Glenronnald, Angus, M^cKonyll, M^cKlen, and hail Glendonald, to dissuaid thame fra anie jurnay quhairin I trow to speid. Bot gif thay will not heare me, then ze fall know the number, the tyme of thair imbarcking, and place quhair thay mynd to land thair intentionnis and confederattis in Iyrland; and I fall mak the said M^cKonndoquhy to keip a secrete intilligence with onie Iyrland man the

Vmbaffator pleffis. Giff thay come to Iyrland, and giff hir Majestie think it meit, I fall cume my self, with 500 to hir service. This affirme in my name, and this, God villing, I fall keap, defyring fecreafie, and fic kyndnes againe as thay fall fe my faithfulnes to deferwe.

The meffinger foirfaid alleggis that the haill auld bluid of Iyrland is joynit and bandit with the thre foirfaid, as the freindis of bot Ormonnd and Defmonnd, bot it may be thay allege this to caus our men the rather to affist thame; and thairefoir, till it be certanlie tryit, be feing thair hand bie it, I will not affirme it, bot assure yourself I fall learne the veretic. This, I pray zow, fay for me in this service, as als for Mr Johnne Archibald, quhais honnestie in thir thingis he know; and fua I tak my leiff. Att Sterling, this Thurfday, the fextein of Januar.

Youris affuerit to powar,

JAMES CAMPBELL,
off Laweris zoungar.

To the Ryght Woirfchippfull,
Mr Johnne Colvill.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

MY LORD AND MECENAS,

1595.
Jan. 25.

In refpect I have, at his Majesties command, keped intelligence with hir Majesties ambaffidour thair, who I know hes imperted all with your Honour; lett it not be vnacceptabill, for I do according to the small mefor of my knowleg, and wold tak it for a fingular favour to be correctet as one of your awin creaturis, if I fourvoy. I befeche, tharfor, your good L., whom I have chofin to be my Mecenas and lodfinan, to direct me in my courfs, that I fall in no error that may diflyik yow; for my hart is youres as moche as my awin, and my laboris, wnder your enfeigne, I haue dedicat, as S. (Mr Bowes) tald yow, whofs letters will fehew fuche occurances as presentlie is. Thus viffing (if it wer your good plefour) fum two lynes of your awin hand, in this matter, praying the Lord, with my familie, for the felicete of hir gratius Majestie, of my

Honourable Lord Thefaurer, and your felf, I humlie tak my leif. This
15 of Januar 1594.

Your L. humill fervand,

Jo. COLVILLE.

To the Rycht Honorable my Lord
and Mecenas Sir Ro. Cecyll, one
of her Majesties Honorable Privy
Counsale.

CAMPBELL TO COLVILLE.

RYGHT LOWING FATHER,

I haiff fend for Mr M^cKonndochie and other Chiftanis accuf-
tomed to ga ouer in Irland, quha ciwin now ar preiffed be this new
ordour maid aganis thame, to feik releiff for thair felf and brokin men,
and to leiwe in some vther countrie; mynding, I affuir yow, gif it be
not stayit, a 300 of thame to gange in Iyrland at peace.

1595.
Feb. 3.

Sua I finding the conclusioun, remembering my promeis and *hand-
wreit* fend up, thoct guid to adverteis zow thairoff, as I haif alsua
schawin to George Nicolfoun; letting zow bayth vnderftand, that for
my felf I will travell vpon my awin charges for a feaffon in that
feruice. Bot the peapill with quhome I haif ado, being men that man
ather be stayit, vpon hoip off sum easie commoditie or labored, going
ower to keip intelligence vpon the lyk respect, I pray zow to fig-
nesse this mekill to my Lord Wmbaffator, and to knaw his mynd
thairin; and wnto the returne of his anfuer I fall hold all in fufpens.
Affuring yow, as of befoir, gif thay can be stayit, I fall do all dilli-
gence requesit; and falzeand thair of, hir Majestie fall knaw thair
number, chiftane, intentionnis, with tyme and place of landing and
embarking, with continewall intelligence out of thair coumpanie,
things being deffered, as is befoir said; and in my abfens pleis wfe
Mr Johnne Arld [Archibald] as my felf, for him I haf apointit to
that eirand, fua lang as I fall remaine in the Iyles.

Let me haif a fpeidie and dire&t anfuer, quhair vpon I reft, taking my haertlie leif. Att Edenbroch, the ferd of Februar.

Youris lowing founce,

JAMES CAMPBELL,
Fear of Lauaris.

To the rycht wourfchipfull his lowing
father, Mr Jo. Coluill.

JUNIOR (CAMPBELL OF LAWERS) TO COLVILLE.

1594[-5.] My dewtie remembered. Rycht worfchipfull Father, Pleis yow, that
March 7. efter my hameganging I paf to Tarbard, quhair fum twa or thre cumpanies var in redines to pas to Irland; bot according to my promis, I hawe fwa trawelt with thame, that thay ar stayit for the present, quhilk hes bein veray trubilfum and expenfiwe to me; nochtwithftanding, I fall omit no dewtie, bot according to my promis I fall ether stay all thair, frome tyme to tym, that ar to pas thair, or uthervayis fall mak yow dew advertieiment in all poyntis, according to promis fpecifeit in my firft lettir to that effect, remitting the reft till our meitting, quhilk falbe fa fehune as poffibill I may fpeik with the reft of the Chiftans quha war off intention to pas in Irland. Bidis yow fairwell. Frome Binnaw the fewint of March.

Youris fone,

To his worfchipfull Father.

JUNIOR.

NICOLSON TO BOWES.

Extract.

1595. 67. (MR JO. COLVILL) hath fspoken with 4. (the K.), but it muft
March 12. be quietly kept till B (the K.) tell 51 (the Chancelor) that he will do it. Allwaies 67. (Jo. Colvill) is rifing, and will neuer chandge his hart from the fervice of A (hir Majestie). He praies you to labour his fute.

GEO. NICOLSON.

JUNIOR (CAMPBELL OF LAWERS) TO COLVILLE.

FATHER,

I am this once agane to go to the Iles, and ye fall informe .s. (Mr Bowes) that thair is bot thre thair to dres for our effeēt, that is Donnald Gorme, Anguis M^cKonyll, and M^cKondochoy Inveralt. For the first tua thay stand furfalt, as ye ken; and yit thay ar to fend in great fowmes to his Majestie, according to thair promiseis maid quhen thay war in the Castell of Edinburghe. If his Majestie acceptis thairof, it is weill; if not, thay will strenthin thair self in the Iles the best thay can, and will feik some privat freindship of .audin. (the Q. of England) to bear thame out, if thay be straitet: And for M^cKondochoy, to hauld him in order, I haife causet my brother in law, the Laird of Glenlyoun, to gif him a rowme and duelling in his lands, quhair he is already duelland. Sua ye fall cast that mater full upon me, and be anfueraill to .s. (Mr Bowes) for it, and I fall be anfueraill to yow. Bot fuirlye ye man procure speidie help for Mr Jo. and me, as I thew you; and so referring farder to the nixt advertisement, I committ yow to Godis protection, this 21 of Marcij.

1594[5].
March 21.

Your loving sonne, at my powar,

JUNIOR.

(*Indorsed*) To his loving father Mr John Colvill.—Junior, young Larde of Lawis, to Mr John Colvill, 3^o Marcij 1594.

NICOLSON TO BOWES.

Extract.

67. (MR JOHN COLVILL) goeth shortly to .b. (the K.), but is altogether devoted to .a. (his Majestie), and if very want hinder not, will be able to be watchman and sterman to the causes for .pa. (England) in .ter. (Scotland). As the regarding of his fute will encorage him (as other-

1595.
April 3.

wife he will, however he be delt with), to venture all he doth for .a. (her Majestie); for I see no change in him, for all mocions to the contrary.

GEO. NICOLSON.

JUNIOR (CAMPBELL OF LAWERS) TO COLVILLE.

FATHER,

1595.
April 7.

Being occupyit sen my laft departour frome yow in dealing, as oft befoir, with M^cKonndochy, quha hes this fame laft oulk refawet aduerteiment off Iyrland frome O'Doneyll and O'Neyll, willing him to cume thair, accompanyit with four hundreth men; quhilk M^cKonndochyis self hes presentlie in reddines (for this lait ordour tane be the Kingis Majestie for the queyating off the Hielandis hes forcit the haill brokin men in these countreis to be in reddines to depart). Aluayis, as oft befoir, the groundis proponit be me fall be keipit; nather hes M^cKonndochy as yit resolwit to depart, bot refis itayit be me, as ye fall learne this nixt oulk be my self at Stirling, quhair, Godvilling, I intend to meit yow.

Thair was lykwayis certane offers direct to my Lord of Argyll be the fame legat,¹ quha came to M^cKonndochy desyrand the assistance of tuelft hundreth men to be fend thair in the monethe of Majj, for the quhilk his L. fould haiff the accusfomet tribute payit be thame to his predecessoris. My Lord hes continewit his anfuer till he meit with his freindis, quhilk is luikit fall be the tuentie off this instant, at quhat tyme he fall direct ane of his awin bak with his anfuer; and sua thair legat hes returnet bak. Anguis M^cKonyill, Donnald Gorme, and M^cKloyid Herice, ar presentlie in dealing with M^cKlane for freindschip, and hes offerit him his haill landis that was deteinet fra him be M^cKonyill; quhilk is luikit fall compois the haill mater. Aluayis thay are to meit, and to convein thair forces, that thay may be transportet in Iyrland; bot I intend to be present my self, Godvilling, at thair meiting, and at my returne I fall acquaint yow in dew tyme of thair haill proceedingis. Sua, to farder occasion or meiting, I tak my

¹ Probably the Bishop of Derry, see *supra*, p. 250.

leif, committing yow in the protection of the Almychtie, this fewint of Apryll.

Your loving sonne,

JUNIOR.

To the rycht worfchipfull his lowing
father, Mr Johnne Colvill.

ASTON TO BOWES.

Extract.

JOHN COLVEN is in this toune, making all his menes to get the K. 1595.
prefenes, butt as yett nott obtend. I knoo you have receved from the April 12.
Lerd of Wemes al the enstroctiiones and depofitiiones of this Gefowitt,
fo thatt I will nott troble yow with thatt further then in my former. I
have no forther for the present, but my herty commend commetes you
to God. From Sterling, the xii of April.

Youris,

ROGER ASTON.

NICOLSON TO BOWES.

Extract.

It may please your Worfhip. For convoy of 67 (Mr Colvill) his 1595.
lettres vnto you, I haue addrested these presents unto you, referring his April 26.
earandes to his owne report in regard of his present repaire to you, and
of his loyaltie to .a. (her Majestie) and .d. (Mr Bowes); onely prayenge
your Worfhip to hait his saf conduct and th'erle of Murrays, if they
shalbe granted as they desier.

GEORGE NICOLSON.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

RYCHT HONORABLE,

I haue no new matter sen my last, for all thingis ar quiet, 1595.
and his Majestie only passing tyme, and voyid of all bufines; the May 18.

Counsaile and Seffion attending hear at Edinborogh wpon the estat; yit that I may inform with moir certenty this week I follow his Majestie.

I wes and am so pressed to this journey, and men ar so ernist wpon the perfruit of .u. (Bothwell), fearing that he find to moche favour whar he is, that I wes forced to vse many indirect meanis, specially by Wemens, which ar not be writen; bot of thame, and many other thingis, yow fall specially know by Archibald Prynrofs, who is to be thair; his fidelite and love thair yow know; and he is acquent with all my proceedingis, except only one of .y. (Mr John Colvill) his meaning to .mperrine. (England). If I gett no releif at this Vitfunday, I am foir wrakkit; and for his Majesties recommendations for me, I lett him know no thing bot thair ar and wilbe fatefeid thair, als thair can no man have good heir (becaus his gentil natour is fuche he can not refus, and it wer to give one thing twenty tymes), except he that hes the credit with thame that ar to pay any thing to him, who is only serwed, and the rest frustrat. Thus for the present, having no moir ocaasion, I comit your L. to Goddis proteccion, this 18 of May 1595.

Y.

NICOLSON TO BOWES.

*Extract.*1595.
May 19.

It may please your Worship, 67. (Mr John Colvill) is perswaded by your aduysse to staie and put ouer his employment at this tyme, albeit he perrilletis his creditt thereby, which .b. (the K.) hoping that, feing he staies by aduise from .pa. (England) from pursuing his owne mony assigned to him by .b. (the K.), that he shalbe the better considered in that assignement, and haue it partly payed and partly reserued for him; in which, against Whitfunday next, he prayeth your Worship and his honorable Meeenas to give your helpes against that tyme for some part therof to him; and for which cause a frende is to be employed, he faithe. His loue and affection to the service of .pa. (England) is great, and his nede extreme; and yet he hopeth of this fauour the better to enable him in the service, and releif him of his nede. For the service, if he had gon to .nos. (Fraunce) that wold haue kythed the self,

in case there be any secrettes to be discovered there, as some thinck there is. Allwaies the proofes had alreedy of 67. (Mr Jo. Colvill) are argumentes good enoughe that to his powre he is for .a. (her Majesties) service.

GEO. NICOLSON.

CAMPBELL OF LAWERS TO COLVILLE.

Ryght Honorable,

Efter my hairtie commendatioun of service; this is to adwerteis zow that Junior (the young Larde of Lavs) fell feick in the Yllis, quhilk was the caus that we haif bene sa lang of hering fra him. Now he is convaleft, and is returnand with fertantie of all materis thair, and affuris me, for all the bruittis past, newer ane is gane our to Yrland; and MacConceill hes fum purpois to ga our, to fie fum landis of his awin thair, bot na number: alway fertefie that he nor na vther of they peipill fall pas our bot Junior (the young Larde of Laus) fall adwerteis tymlie, as was promiseft. Donald Gorme and fum vtheris had fum speeking of the Ile of Man, as I adwerteist zow befoir, and thay warnitt mony bottis vpon the Watter of Clyid, bot Junior stayitt thame quhane he past be Glasgow. I cane wirt [writ] no farrer quhill Junior cum; bot committis zow to Goddis protecioun. Of Sterling, the xxi of Maii.

1595.
May 21.

To Y.

NICOLSON TO BOWES.

Extract.

Ir may please your Worship. Yesternight Mr John Colvill gave me these lettres to you. 67. (Mr John Colvill) is well pleased to staie vpon .d. (Mr Bowes) aduise, and taketh it in good parte, resting wholly at the service of .a. (her Majestie). He maketh many excuses, and thereby hath prevented his imployment hitherto; but I se not but he is still pressed thereunto; yet your aduise he estemeth as a rule to him to follow in any thing, so longe as he lyueth. He is gone by appointment

1595.
May 27.

of his Cheif, and aduife of 58. (Sir George Hume), to where .b. (the K.) is, where .t. (the K.) will preffe him forward, as is thought; yett affure you he will followe your aduife, if poffible he can.

GEORGE NICOLSON.

ASTON TO BOWES.

1595.
May 28. I FIND the myndes of men ocewpyd with chang of Courtt, butt in watt maner, excep be the Qune, the caunott tel. The Qune is nott mynded, fo far as I can fe, to mone or do any thing thatt maye offend the K., although I knoo her affeccion is withdrane in apartt from the houes of Mar, and wold be contentt to haue her fon outt of there handes; yett, confedereng the Kingis refolution in that poyntt, ſhe is contentt rather to obey his wil then her one afceccion, tel ſome other ocaſion entervene. I feye the gelloffyes confeved in this eftatt rather to eneres then demenes. The chefe blame of al is led vppon Mr Jhon Colven; wether he deferue it or nott, God knowes. The one faccion is chefly holden up and counnanfed be the Lerdes of Boclouke and Sefford, whoo are al in al with the Chanfler and Maifter of Glames. The Qune and the Chanfler were never fo grett. Theſe Lerdes are perfuaded that there is nothing mentt to theme but there defgrafe. Theſe thinges are entertend be ſouch as blowes the belles, to fett all on fyer.

ASTON TO BOWES.

1595.
May 30. BE my laſt of the xxviii I acquainted you with the preſentt eftatt here. Senes then I have atended the Qunes remove to Lethcoo, wich hath bene fo croft, as it hath bene in grett queſtion wether ſhe wold go or nott; yett be the ernett perfuaſion of ſouch as are here for the K., both menefteres, counſeleres, and otheres, whoo hath preveled fo far as this daye, ſhe removes; watt courres thereafter ſhal be taken, as yett I know nott. Att oure commeng to Sterling you ſhal be adverteft. Baclouke and Sefford ar in this toune, vere ſtrong. There is another

aperanes; butt the fyre vil breke outt presenttly, if the K. wifely forfe itt nott. The Quene fpekes more plenyar then before, and wil nott les tel she have her fon; butt I knoe the K. wil alter thatt purpofe. It is lokod there wil fale outt fome mifcheff here, and thatt presenttly. Mr Jhon Colven, on the one fyid, and thi ould frend Neccol of Cowe Cros, on the other, gettes the blame of al. For thatt thatt is done here you wil here from Gorg foner then from me. Watt we doo att Sterling I thal lett you knoo. So, in haft, goeng to Lethcoo, to refere the Quene, commetes you to God. Hollyrodhoues, the xxx of Maye.

The Quene apendes her felfe aganft Mar, and fpekes plene langnes. The K. is altogether for Mar. We have tow mygtyt facciones. Watt wil be the end, God knowe.

To my L. Embafter.

NICOLSON TO BOWES.

Extract.

IT was ment that 67. (Mr Jo. Colvill) should have ben employed throughe Englande for forrayne partes, for the purfute of 15. (Bothwell), and other matters, which by reason of 67. (Mr Colvill's) his excuses (grounded vpon your aduife), he hathe almoft drawne him felf from. His purpofe was to have tryed great fecrettes for the fervice of .a. (her Majeftie), and which he wold faithfully have don; and nowe .wlogsoepvbezkb2xkot. (Capten Andrew Gray) one of my acquaintance, but as you know affected, is in queftion to be employed; but I think not, though allwaies, go who please, they will not be to .h. (her Majeftie) as 67. (Mr Colvill) wold have ben.

1595.
May 30.

Yefterday the Chancelor and Sir Ro. Ker came hither, well accompanied. And this day, and not before, the Q. is ridden to Lithquo, for Sterling tomorrowe, and, as is thought, well furtherly with childe.

Where 6. (the Duke) had drawne .e. (the Q.) to agree with 21. (Mar), and to go thither, and departed thither him felf, looking for no change of mynde in .e. (the Q.), as by my former you may perceive; yet 52. (the Chancelor), as is faide, fearing that inconveniences might

follow thereon, had 69. (Bucklewgh) to travaill to Tmfotw .e. (ftay the Q.), who in dede had almost don it; and in which also 70. (Cefford) joyneth, for the .tmfotw. (ftay) of .e. (the Q.) And it was so doubtfull, as some were almost looking for prefent troubles thereby, feing 4. (the K.) had fo earnestly written for 5.¹ (the Q.), and that 58. (Sir Geo. Hume) was here to bring 4. (the K.) forward. But some of res. (the Kirke), and others, well disposed, delt both with 5. (the Q.) and 52. (Chancelor) plainly therein, as nowe 4. (the K.) is .wxoe. (gone), but with full resolucion .cebs2sfimsol. (not to stay), and to infist for younge 4. (Prince), in all earnestnes; in whiche behalf 5. (the Q.) hathe a good back, and stronge assisters. So as, unles .b. (the K.) prevent the worst, chandge .e. (the Quenes) mynde, and be wife, he will have troubles enoughe, and to foone; for there is already plotting on bothe fydes for the lyves of petty dealers, fene to be of best spreites, as 67. (Mr Colvill) and .Sealbdxyokelfkin.² (Nicol Karneoris), who commendis him vnto you. If 5. (the Q.) had not gone, 20. (Orkney), 58. (Sir George Hume), and others, had this day ridden to .b. (the K.), and left 5. (the Q.), whereon then the matter had been begunn. Now, as it is, it may stay; but of hard eaven I warrant you. For thos and other causes .d. (Mr Bowes) is wished here by the .res. (the Kirke), and all good men, but with contentment to .b. (the K.) 58. (Sir George Hume) faith that 4. (the K.) will chide fast with .d. (Mr Bowes), whensoever he sees him, and so will he to. He faith he wrote to 84. (Mr Bowes); but he feeth it is rejected, and faith if .d. (Mr Bowes) had written but ones to him he wold have written often to .d. (Mr Bowes) againe. In myrry fort he told me this, prayeng me to do his hartiest commendations unto you. I assure but for him, that he assured me that 5. (the Q.) wold this day ride. I had given you a larom yesterday of .e. (the Quenes) staic. 52. (the Chancelor) nor 70. (Cefford) had not returned till this daie, but for stay of .e. (the Q.). And yet the sight of th'inconveniencies made 52. (the Chancelor) change his mynde; but 69. (Bucklewgh) and 70. (Cefford) were almost redy to have avowched

¹ "It was in head that 5. (the Q.) should have staid, and 4. (the K.) called hither; but, the perill sene, it is left."—(*Marg. Note.*)

² "Call him Grand."—(*Marg. Note.*)

their aduife for .e. (the Quenes) ftay. Thus I write at length in this dangeroufe matter, which may calme and growe null in tyme, or prolonge for fome tyme; prayeng your Worſhip to kepe the fame ſecrett, as your Worſhip ſhall know to appertaine. So ſhall I ſtill knowe the ſecrettes betwene 67. (Mr Colvill) and .grand. (Nicoll Karnecrofs). Thus muche for the preſent, expecting advertiſement from Sterling of thinges there, and awaiting here of thinges occurring in this place, with myne humble duty and ſervice, I pray God to preferve your Worſhip. From Edenbroch, the 30th of May 1595.

Your Worſhip's humble ſervant,

GEORGE NICOLSON.

To the Right Worſhipful my very
good Mr Ro. Bowes Efquier, The-
faurer of Barwick.

NICOLSON TO BOWES.

Extract.

YESTERDAY Capitane Andro Gray fett forwardes, as I heare, with his diſpatch, to paſſe throughe England for forrayne partes, with no great carand, but to looke to Bothwell's doings abroad. The gentleman is of great frendſhip here; and going the Kingis carandes, there is no doubt made here but he ſhall do his dutie, and be carefull to give good teſtimony, by his behaviour, of his honeſt courſe to cleare all former ſuſpicions of him.

1595.
June 5.

GEORGE NICOLSON.

NICOLSON TO BOWES.

Extract.

As to this Eſtate, I leave it to others, onely thus muche, the K. is to returne to Faulkland on Tueſday; the Q. then or the next day to be here; the Chancelour pleaſing the K., and the K. labouring for agreement betwene the Chancelour and Mar, who will not agree with the

1595.
June 23.

Chancelour before tryall be taken on the band which Mar hathe fayde is made for his hurt onely, and not by wordes, for his life, and which by a landed man he will proue, and by way of combatt by the landed man against the Chancelour or any of his followers. Mar and Hamilton are neither in faire nor fowle termes, but indifferent.¹ Hamilton will deale with nether, nor careth for their displeasures if it were so. The K. will not haue the young Prince in any other handes, and the Q. had rather the devill kept him then those that haue him; yet she dare not planely deale in it, becaufe the K. fayeth, if he were to dy and could not speake, it should be his last will, and he wold make it knowne by signes that Mar should still kepe the younge Prince. And the Chancelour pleafeth the Kingis humour therein, so that if the K. can work reconciliacioun he will; but the next will be worfe. I know not yet who shal go vp for the gratuity, or howe. Sir Ro. Melvin is in hope. God forbid. But who euer go, 67. (Mr Colvill) should be remembered. He is too true to .a. (her Majestie), to be caffer for .b. (the Kingis) purfe, and on his chardge.

GEORGE NICOLSON.

EARL OF MURRAY, &c. TO COLVILLE.

RYGHT LUFFING FREIND AND COWSING,

1595.
June 28.

Efter our hairtlie commendationis, to the end we be nather thoct inconstant, nor ze and Geordye Nicolson ower sudane, quha be meanes of my Lord Ambassador hes procured to ws so favorabill a pasport, we thoct guid to advertaise zou of the delay of our jurnay for the present, that ze myght advertaife his Lordship of the same, and of the causes moving ws; quhilk ar, first, the advyfs of the Erlis of Argyll, Merchell, and Mortowne, with vthers our nobill freindis, thinking the tyme nocht proper to ws to visiet forene cuntries; nixt, the tyme to chuifs our curatoris drawing near, quhilk fould force ws to returne, iff we went away at this present, befydes other refones that we

¹ "My Lord and Lady Hamiltons are nowe courtiers, and the K. and Q., like them, fearfull, and not to be delt with."—(*Marg. note.*)

cane nocht wreit, hes for a quhyll stayid ws. We pray zow, therfoir, be meanes of his Lordship foirfaid, to hold ws in the guid fauour and grace of hir Majestie, his Soverane, lyk as we will to our power prow we our selff, in all lesum maneir, to followe out the guid cours our guid fister and prediceffor wes into, and falbe so gratefull to his Lordship, zow, and Geordy Nicolfone, for zour kyndnes, as we may or cane. Thus, referring the rest to meitting, we committ you to Godis holie protectioun. From Downe, the 28 of June 1595.

Zouris verie assured,

MORRAY,
HARY STEUART, JUNIOR.

To his werie guid freind, Mr Jhonne
Colvill.

COLVILLE TO NICOLSON.

FAYTHFULL BROTHER,

Albeit I have no new matter, yet I man writ ay as I have oportunitie. Ze may perhave or now that .q. (the K.), with his vill, shall not do as .k. (the Chancelor) and that crew vold, and I think .h. (the Maister of Glamys) be discharged, and it may be .q. (the K.) be alredey away. By all apperance .a. (Marr) will prevaill with him; for .a. (Marr) hes so much assurance as vord or writ can mak. As I writ befor, and at thair departour, .q. (the K.) said to .a. (Marr), If he, for any persuasion of accident, suffered young .q. (Prince) go out of his handis till he wer 15 zeir owld, he fuld have his malediction. The letter yow fend me is from Standfast, making mention that he hes perfwadit moir of .u. (Bothwell) his company to his effect agans the said .u. (Bothwell). This 26 of Julii 1595. The Lord preferve yow.

1595.
July 26.

To 5. servand.

PRIMROSE TO COLVILLE.

GUID GOSSEP,

1595.
Aug. 7.

I can not furnis you with sic comfortable neuis as I wold, becaus I find .q. (the King) the auld man. Zit I hoip, ze haueing a little pacience, your libertie fall cum onlukit for, to zour contentment; for, as I heir, the grit Turk (Philip), and his confederattis, hes, be thair instrumentis heir, offerit to .q. (the K.), that gif he will gif thair merchantis (Papiftis) libertie (libertie of conscience) to vter thair wairis without controlment, and to vse thair auin liberties, unoffending the Estait vtherways, they will presentlie gif to .q. (the King) ane hundreth thousand crounis, with promis of forder, as they find thair merchantis haue libertie. .q. (the King) myndis to ryd in perform for the purpoifs in handis, and for keping of his promis to .audin. (hir Majesty) and .d. (Ministry); but, in my opinioun, thair is no gude to be expectit at his handis; for I think him zit the same he wes of befoir, and for sic as hes credit beyd him, namlie, .k. (Chanfler) .h. (Glamis), .j. (S. R. Melvin). I have no better hoip of thame, nor of him, for they ar the hunteris of him to all this mischeif; and zit they persuaid .d. (Ministry), as I fear thay do .audin. (hir Majesty), of the contrary. I pray God that nather the ane nor the vther be disfaunt with thair falsset, and that he may remoue sic juglouris fra .q. (the King) his company.

Thair is embassadoris cum heir fra the Estaites, quha as I heir hes commissioun to reneu the auld league betwix ws and thame, and ar to mak grit offeris to his Majesty for this effect, namelie, ane zeirlic annuitie to the Prince of x^m crounis, beyd xxx^m crounis to be delynerit in redde coyne, and other jouellis amounting to litle les.

I fall so handle the mater committit to .pndiens. (Jeremy Lindfay's) rememberans that, be Godis grace, he and I fall find out ane waige of the same wod to vndo the trafficque of the grit Turkes (Spanisli) merchantis (religion).

Now, gude Gossip, as in the begynnyng I haue written that I can not furnis zou with sic comfortable neuis as I wold, so mon I end; zit on thing I will affuir zou of, that gif ze could be content to follou counfell and to forget things past, I dar promis that .a. (Mar) and

my .Mr. (Duke) fall tak ane doing for zou and fettle matoris betwix
 .q. (King) and zou, qulhairanent as zou find zourfelf difpofit fend me
 your anfuer. Thus my commendationis rememberit to my emmer and
 the bairnis, I commit you and thame to God. This vii. of Auguft.

Your ain

GOSSEP.

(Archy Primros, the Duke's Commif-
 fioner and Collector of K. fubfidis
 prefent.¹)

I have decyphred fo moche of this letter as is not in your alphabet.²

To Y.

NICOLSON TO BOWES.

Extract.

67. (Mr Jo. Colvill) wil be founde to do good offices to .a. (her 1595.
 Majeftie), in cafe there fhould be matters of moment in .ter. (Scotland) Sept. 12.
 concerning .pa. (England), and therefore helpe, if you can, annent that
 which .A. (the K.) appointed him, for he hathe great nede.

All others to Mr John's letre to me.

GEO. NICOLSON.

COLVILLE TO BOWES.

MY HONORABLE GUID LORD,

At this Convention in Lythgo, beginning the 2 of this infant, 1595.
 I tref fuch matteris fall be refolved vpon as fhall be vorthy of adver- Nov. 1.
 titfiment, as a refident counfall withe his Majeftie, a echecker, and order
 with the Bordoris which be marvelufly difordered, and nomination of a
 new Chancellor. Albeit fuch as think with tyme to draw it to thair
 felf perfuadis a delay therof, gret instance is maid to th'erll Mar for
 affurance with his nychtboris, bot no fpead, and his Majeftie is content
 that day of law be at Edenburgh the 20 of December peremptourly.

Your vnfreindis hear think that France and Spane ar accordit to

¹ In the same hand as the interpretations of the ciphers.

² In Colville's hand.

your prejudice, and yow ar alreidy in thair confait devored, bot I hoip in the Lord your Debora fall yit prevaill ower all hir idolatrus foes.

This is all for the present that I can signifie, lamenting that yow fuld be fo burthened for me as yow ar, and .quondam. (Mr Prymrose) fo fruftrat, bot that fall never change .y. (Mr Colvill) his mynd, as knoweth God, whom I befeche preferwe yow. This first of November, fra Stirling.

To S.

NICOLSON TO BOWES.

Extract.

1595.
Dec. 29. 67. (Mr Colvill) having had yesternight conference with 59. (the Prior of Blantyre), with whom he is great, hathe not onely founde him of good mynde to .a. (her Majestie), but very franck in the good cause here, and hathe perswaded him to enter into intelligence with .Mor. (Nicolson), who .59. (the Prior) saies shalbe welcome allwaies to him. And 67. (Mr Colvill) thinckes very mete that by letre you congratulate his arising credit with .b. (the K.) as a most honest person, for so he is to good causes, and he will surely be greate; for 57. (the Mr of Glames) is absent, and 64. (the Collector), and 66. (Provost of Edinburgh), and others, are weary at this tyme of their places, and like to be displaced. 67. (Mr Colvill) is at hard point that .quondam. (Archibald Primrose) hathe not spedd, yet I fynde allwaies one mynde and unalterable resolution in him fill to be a servant to .a. (her Majestie), and if occasion serve he wilbe founde so indede. Thus with myne humble dutie and service, I pray God preserve you. Edenb. 29^o December 1595.

Your Worship humble Servant,

GEO. NICOLSON.

COLVILLE TO LOK.

RYGHT LOVING BROTHER,

1597.
July 20. After a long inutill byding in Scotland, I am now arryved in Holand, with his Majesty's good lyking, having both license and testi-

moniall under his hand and great feall; bot the trenth is, for all the service I have done I culd by no meanis gett anything of the debt awand by his Highnes. His Grace wes so overburthened with many things which greved me to see, so I am not afchamed to tell you that I am presentlie at a great strait; and tharfore if ye culd work any comfort from my Meeenas, I would hartlie request yow, affuring his Honor that I both can and will do good service here, wharunto I am bound, albeit I suld never refive more favour nor I have alreedy. As to the estate of matters heir, we look dayly when his Excellencie shall go to the Leager; bot whedder he gois is not yit knowin, for all heir is keepit verey seeret. Thair is a Polax cum hider, accompaneit with 6 or 7, who gevis not himself out for ane Ambassator; bot it is thought he hes a seeret commission to the Cardinall, for the hurt of this estate. From Amiens we heir no thing; and as for the Cardinall he will go to no interpris till Alvar is cum to him with the Italian supply of 4000 men, who, as we heir, is alreedy past Millane. This is all for the present that I can writ, lukiing by the next to hear from yow, and of your good advys how I shall behave my self, as also what is to be expected thair, whair I have rendred my self in all lefull maneir. So I commit yow to Godd's blessed protection, this 20 of July 1597.

Your assured friend,

JO. COLVILLE.

To my loving Brother,
Mr Herrie Lok Esquyer.

Let Mr Henderfon find his commendations heir.

COLVILLE TO CECYLL.

RYT HONORABLE,

By my last I informed your Honour of my arryvall hear, and of my inalterabill affection to serve hir gratius Majestie, whairunto hir manifold undeferved benefites hes tyit me; bot finding no answer, and fearing that my letteres be not cum to your hands, I have presumed by

1597.
Aug. 31.

these againe to signifie wnto your Honour, since I cannot at home do any service, I am boyth hear redy and elfwhar to refave your commandements, whar your plefor shall be to direct me, being of opinion if I wer imployit, with Godd's grace, to do more nor I will presume to writ; for which caus, as of befor, if this my homill offer be acceptabill, lett me have sum tua lynes from your self, or sum directions to your ordinary hear to that effect, togider with a cypher, that I may writ tharby such matters as be not fit otherways to be red. As ever it be, I hope your Honour will tak my humill offer in good part, as proceeding from your oblist fervand.

As for the estat of matters heir, specially of the intaking of Berg, whar I wes a seeing witnes, since I know your awin agent hes sufficiently informed, I abstene to writt; yit if your plefor be, during my abod heir, that I keip heirefter intelligance in matters not pertinent to his swor (service?), I am redy, upon your comandement, to obey. I persaved at Berg sum emulation betwix his Excellencie and Grave of Hollok, who, with his lady, the 23 heirof, parted from the Leager to Germany; bot this malcontentment wes not publihit. If it [is] not tynollie smothered, it may be prejudiciall to thease peapill. I left his Excellencie stronglie intrrenched beyd Berg, having two brigjes over the rever, and a gret many felhips, in cais he culd not hold head to the enemy, who lay their within 3 Dutch myills; bot now I hear he is relived. Her Ambassadors of Colone I left solliciting for thair Bischopp's will, becaus Berg is of his territory. And thus, my speciall good Lord and Mecenas, having no furder matter at the present, humlie kissing your hands, I committ yow to Godd's bleffit protection. From Hag, the last of August 1597.

Your Lordship's awin humill fervand,

JO. COLVILLE.

Plis your Honour, excus my boldnes that I humlie desyr this uther to be furlie sent to Mr Ro. Bowes, Ambassador.

To the rycht honorable Sir Ro. Cceyll
Knight, Lord Secretary.

ASTON TO CECYLL.

Extract.

I HERE NO more of Archball Douglas fount [fuit]. The King faves, 1598.
 he is one knave, and Mr Jhon Colven another. We here that Mr Jhon June 12.
 has kist her Majestie's hand.

PATER, [THE LAIRD OF GLENORCHY, TO COLVILLE?].

RICHT ASSURIT FREIND,

Ye fall wit, that the sixt day of this instant of August I receavit 1598.
 aduerteisment fra ane freind, declaring the M^cClen, being in flay, the Aug. 7.
 first day of the fame, at ane tryift appointit betuix him and James
 Angus sone, that MakClen, vnder traift and promis, is flaine, togidder
 with his secund sone, and hail principall of his furname; and that
 Jame Makforle had directit out of Ireland priuèlie the nowmer of foure
 hundrecht Ireland men, quha wer principall executaris of this conspi-
 racie, deuifit for the fame purpos. Be quhat way this procedis, as I
 obtene forder intelligence, ye falbe aduerteift. I receavit aduerteisment
 fra M^cClen, sehortly efter my conference with yow laitlie, be the quhilk
 I understude that quhateuir cours I thoct gude he wold follow furth
 the fame. And sua this is ane greit lois; bot the nixt best falbe fol-
 lowit furth. The rest to youre aduerteisment, committis yow to God.
 The vii. of August 1598.

Youris,

PATER.

Receiued the 9 of August, at night.

2^s 6^d caryouge.

NICOLSON [TO BOWES?].

I TOLD his Majestie, in the very words, what your Honor willed me 1598.
 to assure him of Bothwell. He saide, it was true he was to go Bruxells he Aug. .
 hard; but he was earnest to knowe of Mr John Colvill, for what cause I
 know not, but gesse, to judge of Bothwell's by Mr John, who his Majestie
 heares is in frendship with Bothwell, that by Mr John's being any where
 he may suspect the like of the other.

NICOLSON TO CECYLL.

Extract.

1598.
Aug. 16. I RODE yefterday to Dalkeithe. The Secretary¹ told me the proclamation was don, and he had spoken the K. annent the 2 men, and was to speak me from the K. ; and speaking him as we came home yefternight, he said the K. said, he aught no purgacon in that matter. That there was none here, and if they were, or M^rSorle, or yet Tirone, or yet Odonell, why might not they go as well in Edinborogh stretes as Bothwell and Mr John Colvill in London? which he said the K. hard of. I said it was not so. But he said, the K. had hard, and the brute was so he was sure I hard. I said, it was true I had hard it, but sure it was not so. Allwais, he said, he hoped it was not true too, but wished good loue amitie betwene the Princes, and such rumour to be discredited. This morning I rode to Dalkeith to the K. againe, telling his Majestie of the men, as before. He said, he knew not of them, but should cause enquire of them, and do what was mete in goode faithe. He spoke it very kyndely, asking me, what kynde of men they were, and what they wore; which I tolde him; whereon he saide againe he should go and spere them out, and do reason, willing me to certifie so. But, he said, how comes this, that Bothwell and Mr John Colvill are at London? He heard it, he saide, thought it strange, and did not believe it. I saide, sure it was but some taile: I durst venture my life that Bothwell was not there; but for Mr Colvill, I said, it might be he was, not being knowne to be in his Majestie displeasure. He said, indede he went away in his favour, and he fand no falt with his being there. He said, allwais he willed me to certifie those brutes here, which, indede are open speeches here, and which he will nevertheles no way credit. I moved as if I wold have knowne whether the K. wold had Mr David to have caryed this matter or no. He said, he wold have me write, sayeing also Mr David was goinge so, as he is upon his dispatche; of whose preferment to the King's chamber I heare it is not as I wrote upon some cunninge used to me, wherof I wilbe warr hereafter.

¹ James Elphingstone, afterwards Lord Balmerino.

LOK TO CECYLL.

RYGHT HONORABIL,

I haue had conferens with M^r John Coluil, the scope wherof
tendeth,—

1598.
Dec.

1. To signify his mishap, at his last being in England, to find your Honor absent in France, and myself in the North, which forsed his ouertur and direction of adres by any other then your Honor, to whom, by many especial fauors, he is eternally bownd.

2. To offer his future feruis, and especially to craue your Honoris preffens and conferens.

3. To shoue, by many refous, the inconvenients growing to hir Majesty by furnishing the King with mony at this or any time; as also, disceoradgment of hir frends, &c.

4. That, with litel more cost, he shold be forsed to discouer him openly, and therby lose the menes he now hath couertly to hurt; and that sufficient able aētors ar yet in Scotland to direcēt futch a cours, and perform it.

5. To offer to procure the publik disgrafe of the Scotish Bishop of Glafeo, Imbassitor in France, by the State it self there.

6. To excuse his first fall from Bothwel, his late reconfilment with him in France, and shewing the use of Bothwel's feruis offered in Spain or Italy, to which land thay chefly conferd.

With fondry particulars, which I refer to your Honoris conferens with him or myself. In all duty, commending my feruis to your Honor,

Whos I euer rest,

HENRY LOK.

For the Ryght Honorabil M^r Secretary.

NICOLSON TO CECYLL.

Extract.

THE King is aduertifed that Mr John Colvill is at London, and that he made advertifement that the King sent for Mr James Gordon and Mr William Creichton, and others, to come to convert his people, with

1598-9.
Jan. 3.

other things, to flander and wronge the K. with. And the K. heares he is well entertayned there, whereat, and at Sir Walter's¹ good entertaynement ther in England. My Lord Secretary² faies the K. mervails, and is not well pleafed that fuche bad and evill perfons should be fo treated ever in England, being the King's rebels, and Sir Walter an excommunicated perfon alfo. I faid, that for Mr John it was not knowne in England but that he had the King's lycence, and departed with his favour. He faide, No. I replyd, I know it to be fo; fayeng, that when the K. heard that Bothwell should be in England, he faide to me, he could not finde fault with Mr Colvill's being there, for he departed with his leave; and for Sir Walter, I faide, your Honor and our Eftate, I thought, did not thinck it mete to ftay, but to further Sir Walter's returne to the K., that his Majefty, to whom he is a fault, might take order with him³ as he pleafed and law caufe. He faide, it might be fo; yet the K. noted his good entertaynement, longe ftaye there, his courtioufe difpatch, with licence to bring away 3 horfe, and lettres to my Lord Willoughby to treat him; and the favour Mr John findes there to have been better then is, without great fute, granted to the King's beft fubjectes; mervayling what it should meane, and very lovingly, I muft fay, he deliuered this to me, as a matter he wold have kyndely and familiarly, I thought, cleared to the King.

INTELLIGENCE FROM NICOLSON.

Extract.

1598-9. It will be very mete that the King have some fatiffaction ament Mr
Jan. 3. John Colvill's earandes, and Sir Walter [Lindsay's] entertaynement; for he is wonderfull jelououfe over their being and enterteynement in England.

CECYLL TO NICOLSON.

Extract.

1598-9. For the matter concerninge the other [John Colville] being in Eng-
Jan. 12.

¹ Sir Walter Lindsay: See page 265.

² See page 289, note 1.

³ *Marginal Note.*—"It is noted as a great fault in Mr Davyd [Wardlaw] that he was so familiar with Sir Walter, and lay in a house, and eat together."

land, or negociatinge with any of her Majesties Counsell, I will only say this much, upon myne honnour and creditt, that I doe thinke he never came nearer hether than France; and that the Queene seorneth to gewe creditt, or suffer any dealinges, with any foe turbulent humours.

GEORGE NICOLSON TO CECYLL.

Extract.

AND the Kinge said, That as her Majestie desires that he wold beleive and judge her by herselfe, and not upon rumour, so he wifeth and desires that she wold do him; and protested, that none of his should have power or creditt of him, or in his name, to colour or do any unkinde offices towards her, (By his trothe, he saide it), as for his parte, he hoped of her Majestie againe: notinge by the waye, Mr John Colvill to be doinge no good or honest offices towards him; bot to be practisinge out of these matters of Valentyne Thom;¹ adding, that Mr John saies he is none of his King, nor he his subiecte.

1598-9.
Jan. 20.

HENRY LOK TO COLVILLE.

THIS is the third letter, good Brother, that firs departure I wrote vnto yow, which, if thay had al arived, had not yet rested unanswered. But now not dowpting of this, I pray yow inform me particularly of your successe with the Earle or merchant, of the acceptans of the offers yow caried from Paris, and of the caws that I never hard woord from frater.; which I assure yow in staying in places for thaim, and sending to harken after thaim, has stode me in nere 40 crowns, besides my greter difapointment then yow cold think. Especially let me know of your estate, and wherin one of us may comfort other. I am in hast, yet loth to lene to foone. I pray yow salute the good brotherhood at Boloign, and honest Mr Nicolson, and pray for me, who am tired here, firs here is no occasion, worth my stay, lik to fall owt this yere, and I

1599.
June 22.
Enclosed in
Aug. 17.

¹ "A miscreant, Valentine Thomas, accused James of employing him in a plot against the life of Elizabeth."—(Tytler's History, vol. ix. p. 246.)

an altogether solitary. If I cold doe good nerer yow, I wold yow cold procure my return to yow, and ever I pray yow wish to me as I doe to yow. From Bayonne, this 22 June 1599.

Your loving brother,

HENRY LOK.

If you wright to me couer your lettre to Francis Lambert, Inglis merchant at Bayonne, and ther doth from Rowe weakly lettres pas hether, els deliuer it to Thomas Honiman, merchant in London, or els Alderman More, for me, as soon as you can, for I long to hear from you.

To his louing brother Mr John Coluil,
at the Pot de Estaigne, at Boloin,
or els where, with spede.

HENRY LOK TO MR WILLIS, ATTENDANT ON SIR ROBERT CECYLL.

Extract.

1599.
July 4.
Bayonne. FURTHER, I pray you let Sir John Carey be put in minde of the £40, which els, I protest, wil fall on my hed. The case Mr Secretary [Cecyll] knows, and Mr Levinus (Munch) hath the note of it. It was £40 to have bin by him delevered to J. Colvil, which he refaived and never paied; bot I stand bound for it, and J. Colvill refaived on my credit, so that I shold have the money.

ANONYMOUS TO COLVILLE.

MONSIEUR,

1599.
July 3 $\frac{1}{2}$. Jamais enfant n'a heu plus d'obligation a son pere que nous en vostre endroiët, pour les bons offices qu'auons receu de vous. J'esper que Dieu vous fera cognoître que vous ne faiëtes plaisir a des ingratz; car croyez que nostre but n'est aultre si non a vous honorer et prier Dieu toute nostre vie pour vous. C'est honnest gentilhomme auquel vous avez eferit a nostre occasion, nous a grandement soulagé; nous aiant

donné oultre nostre despence douze escuz pour aider à nostre voiage, et oultre plus des adresse pour trouver quelque confort sur les chemins; tellement que je ne desir plus si non recepuoir de voz nouuelles, ce que pourrez faire par plusieurs de voz cartiers lesquelz s'achement toujours en l'isle de Ré: je ferez au Bourog de St Martin prædicateur en ce lieu, et lors que m'aurez donné le moien de vous respondre je n'y feré faulte. Nous esperons apres les Pasques retourner en Paris, auquel lieu nous aurons moien de vous veoir amplement, et lors nous vous remercirons de toutes les courtoisies que nous faiçtes: ce qu'attendant (mon compaignon et moy) nous vous baifons humblement les mains, avec tous vos bons amys de dela; priant Dieu, Monsieur, vous donner longue et heureuse vie avec l'accomplissement de voz bons desirs, vous priant nous benir a jamais pour

Voz trefchers enfans et obeissantz Seruiteurs,

38. 76.

De Paris ce 31 Juillet 1599.

A Monsieur—Monsieur de Coluille,
ou il fera.

[SIR ROBERT CECYLL] TO COLVILLE.

SIR,

I have sent you so often messages by this bearer, whome you trust, as me thinkes you might thereby vnderstand reasons. When your dealing with me was more secret, it gave you better meanes to discover dangerous practises, then now it doth; for when you came to the Erle of Essex, it was in more private forme, then since your continuall aboade hath made it. But if you remember, the wonders offered from Bruce, and what threasures of the Popes should be intercepted, with other such lyke ouuertures, me thinks you might well aunfuer yourself, that your good will is better then your meanes.

For your Nephew's employement, I was not privy to it, nether do

1599.
Sept. 1.

I fee any fruit in it; and therefore beare with me I pray you, especially at this tyme, for entertaining you, when there are some particulers not wel reconciled between the two Estats, to which I would be loth to see any addition made by anye further croffe constructions of your dealing with me; though the conscience is sufficient witness that there is not, nor ever was, any just occasion for any person living to take offence. This is all which, for this tyme, I can say unto you; and so I rest, at all tymes ready to do that to you which shall be fitt for me.

Your loving friend.

Savoy, first Septembre 1599.

Indorsed—Copy to Colvill.

JAMES HUDSON TO CEVYLL.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

1599.
Sept. 19.

It may please your Honor to be advertised that at Mr Semple¹ his servant's returne I was in the countrei; but now I perceive by this last returne from Scotland that this matter of Ashfield will be moir largely handled, and that the K. and Sir Robert Ker merveilth that his Majesty should take any offence at all in that matter, but rather yield the K. some good contentment in his desires, as by Mr Semple is requyred; it seemeth that final good is lyk to ensue of the matter, and this gent is much perplexed how to carry it without offence to either part. Busy bodies and factious people fill their heads with reports of many matters, and, amongst other, how that your Honor should intertayne Mr Jhon Colveil hear with a large allowance, and give him passages and privileges to come and goe to and fro in this realm at his pleasure, which the K. can not believe till he hear from this gent therein, by your Honor's own mouth, the truth; for he sayd, how shall I believe that, when I knowe that Colveil offered service to him long since by a third person, and that he answered flatly that he would have nothing to doe with him, for he was ever upon the wrong side. Thus honorable

¹ Afterwards knighted, as Sir James Sempill of Beltrees.

and refpectively I knowe he fpak, when another at that tyme enter-
teynid hime, at whoos hand I lokid not for that meffner;¹ thus found I
vnlockid for effect, boath the waes,² and doe not mean to omit the merit
of ether in his owin tyme. It is a thinge that movith the K. exfeid-
ingly to fei Mr Colvil fill with tunge and pen to perfewer in the higheft
degrei off malice aganft boath his actions, his honor, his perfon, for-
tuyne, prefent and futter, at al tymes, in all plaffis, and that he hath
the liberty of this land, and acfels to honorable and honeft perfons; for
he is a man of all other moft odius to the K., and the K. fayth he
meittith dayly with matter of his malice. But becaws I fei a mynd in
the gent to be frei with your Honor in al matters, I remit the ful effects
to hime felf, who wefthith al wel, and wil indevoyr his beft to have it fo,
and ever reft,

Your Honor's humble to command with fervice,

JA. HUDSON.

At London, the 19 of September 1599.

To the Right Honorable Sir Robert
Cecyl, Knight, Principal Secretare
to hir Majestie, and of hir Highnefs
moft honorable Prive Counffel.
Defpach with fpeid.

NICOLSON TO CECYLL.

Extract.

IT MAY PLEASE YOUR HONOR,

Mr Davyd Wartlaw is to be fent up with Beltrees publick let-
tres within 2 or 3 daies. This his lettre, he faithe, is in private to your
Honor; to which lettres I refer your Honor for this matter, and others;
only I conceive that if the lettres with Mr David procure not fome
contented anfwere, that it will follow that fome great ambassage shall

1600.
April 20.

¹ Measure.

² Unlooked for effect, both ways.

go from hence to her Majestie, as in my former I have longe ago touched to your Honor partly. For preparinge mony for this matter, the King, not amynded it should stay till the Convencion, had appointed the Chancelor, Secretary, and Sir George Hume, and Mar, Kynlofs, and Sir Tho. Erskyn, to have ben here on Tuesday last, for advisinge and findinge out the moyen for furnishinge of an Ambassador for England. The first 3 came, but none of th'other faccion. The K. went to Counfell with the 3 there, and proponed the matter to them; who feking to know of the K. who he wold fend, and for what earandes, was answered by the King, They should leave that to him selfe, he wold find the man and earandes. They feing it so, and hearing that by some advife from Eugland this Ambassador should be imployed, and being advertised that upon a plat alreedy layd by the Lard of Spott, Mr John Colvill, and Mr Archbald Douglas, for a general alteracion here, to draw the K. from the groundes and courfes he is on annent his stirrs and preparacions for Inglande, that her Majestie is to fend an Ambassador hither for suche an alteracion as shall take the K. from these his groundes, upon which groundes the Chamber side seme not to have layde the King; but the greatest of them, Sir Geo. Hume by name, hathe by the Larde of Beltrefe assured and sent me quiet worde, that at the next Convencion thay shall see his Majesties meaninge to be declared by Act of Convencion, to be no way ment against her Majestie, or to displeafe her, so longe as she lyves; and in that maner, as they say, shall content her Majestie in these behalves; and have assured me of this.

Your Honoris humble at commandment,

GEORGE NICOLSON.

Edenburgh, 20 Aprilis 1600.

To the Right Honorable Sir Robert
Cecyll Knight, Principall Secretary
to the Queenes Most Excellent
Majestie.

DECYPHERED LETTER.

TRUST AND ASSURIT FREIND,

Because I have written of lait so amply, bayth 50. (on Chefom), 1600-1.
and 60. (James Steward, brother to the Earle of Orkeny), and also for Jan. 20.
ane other cause, ye know, I was not to wreyt at all at this tyme, war
not the good lawk of this bearar, whose trewth and kyndnes towards
me, and devotion to haly places, makes me to change propos, and to
wreyt this feu lines to recommend him to you as his vertu merites;
because I defyre he fuld be not only intime with you, but also with all
others thaire, as he who may do ws in our affaires great fervice, being in
the company of 80. (the Patriarch), with whom he has acqueynted me,
and ye may have like acceffe at his arriving theire by his moyen; and
thairefoire yf he have ado to wryte to me, lat him have our ciphre, that
he be not defitute of moyen to let us vnderstand thinges as they fell
ocurre. I thought not to have written farder nor this, but fenes my
hand is at the penn, I may regrait the falsset of fom of our fellowshp,
bayth Ingles and Scotts, and principally of .dominus. (Robert Bruce)
and .seruus. (H. Constable), for they have revealed all that thai knew,
and has made quhaire thai wantit, quhair vpon they ignorant fort of
our freindes has thought our maitters farder avanfet nor ewer thai war,
the quheilk, I feir, hes walknet our ennemies to follow the glaickkes;
yit I hope in God he fell turne all to the best, and make them precipi-
tate thair selves, as they did the 17th of December. In like manner
this prid betwen .fiores. (Earle of Angus) and .mores. (Marquis of
Huntley), and the proteccion that .fiores. takes of his eime to the dif-
plefour of .Gemini. (Sir George Hume) dois vs great hairme. The
buick I fent you last of .quoniam. (Mr Cecyll), I see, offendes maire nor
I luickit for, because meu taks that rather for ane dishonoring of .A.
(the K. of Scots), nor for any diferediting of 90. (Creighton), (the
treaty of the King of Scottland with the Q. of England will turne him
to noe good, yf I be not deceaved; the which, I think, he will find very
shortly¹). We are sory for the captivitie of .A. (Cambel Capuchin),² and

¹ "This included within the parenthesis was written in cyfre."—(Marg. note.)

² See page 211, note 2.

we can not hef na guid news of him. Let me know quha cwms in .pipis. place (Cardinal Cajeton, wha is dead). Bewar, I pray thee, with all .quodlibetis. (Engliffmen), quihidder thai be with ws or aganis us, becaufe, other be indiferetion or treafon, thai gowt our throttis; but principallie hald your felfe quyet, and make no fhaw, becaufe that will gyf men occafion to take tent and fpy your aétions, as dowbtles thair is men with fie charge. Think not our vnfriendes be fleiping; ye ar as yit, thancks be to God, vnknown. As to my felfe, I have not as yit refolvit quidder I will turne to the north or to the fouth, as I fhallbe chargitt I am to do. Commend me to all our freindes of fecefie. God Almightye have you in his keeping, and prosper all things among your hands, to his glory and our falut. The 20th of Januar 1600.

Be youris,

68.¹

DECYPHERED LETTER, COLVILLE TO "JUSTUS."

[1601. 313. NOSTREDAME. (Mr Ballantine) and 333. affiftance. (Mr Freyer)
March 7.] culd have no affurance of 490. expectation. (mony to be brought from Rome to Scotland) wntill 110. deceat. (Pope) fhuld refave by .Novilius. (Dromond²) certainty that 118. friendfhip. (K. of Scots) vold ether be .December. (Catholick), or at left grant 439. defperation. (libertie of religion), and we look hear daylie for .Novilius. (Dromond); fo boyth ar returnit hear malcontente. Albeit 313. noftredame. (Ballantine) hes obtenit for him felf a plat of 300 crownes.

Thair is littil compt at 419. hipocerifie. (Rome) of 118. freindfhip. (K. of Scots), and all his effaris ar laborit be theifs that be affected to 207. fyir. (Spayne); for 234. autorithe. (Parfons) .Doctus. (Bellarmine³) and .Doctior. (Borgefius⁴) boyth knoweth and directed all that is proponit for him; fo that in end he will fynd he fekit hott watter wnder

¹ "68," the cypher probably of Mr John Fraser, Abbot of Noyon.

² Sir Edward Drummond, a younger son of Drummond of Riccarton, and a Judge in the Bifhop's Court at Vaison, in France.

³ The celebrated Cardinal Bellarmine.

⁴ Cardinal Camillo Borghese, afterwards Pope Paul V. (1605—1621.)

cold yee; yea, I am of opinion, not wythout good grownd, that if he fatiffie not thame fodenlie, that thai shall excommunicat; and for eertaine the Bull is renewit to 109. riches. (K. of Spayne) for the conquest of 214. grace. (England), becaus thai esteme boyth possessor and successor incorrigibill. Item, .Doctior. (Borgefius) hes of new refavit the plat of 2000. digiti. (crownes) from .109 riches. (K. of Spayne); and tho 118. frendfchip. (K. of Scots) wrot with his awin hand to 110. deceat. (the Pope), by the said .Novilius. (Dromond), lyk as 313. noftredane. (Mr Freyer) had ane other letter of credit als from 118. frendfchip. (K. of Scots), yet 110. deceat. (the Pope) hes anferit nothing with his hand, bot causit .Doctus. (Bellarmine) writ the anfer, excusing himself with his chiragre. .Dociflinus. (Frier Archer¹) wes to depart from 419. hipocriefie. (Rome) to 205. watter. (Ireland), with 5000 donblons for the comfort of your enemies thair, and with assurance of 6000 Spaniards, of 207. fyir. (Spaine), and vther assistance needfull, with all diligence. He goeth by Britanny, and the other two commiffioners, viz. Jones Davety and Donaldus Gingalius, domestiques to Adonill,² will cum this way, and by meanes of. Maij. (Jo. Colvill) myndit to go home; and to the end .Apryll. (John Colvill) myt have more particularly knowin of that armee, he intendit once to have gone to 207. fyir. (Spayne), bot his moyens manquit him.

.Apryll. (John Colvill) fayis that, vpon danger of his lyef, this is all that may be hopit or fearit of 205. watter. (Ireland), and of 203. constancy. (Scotland) for the presert; and he is now so far bey, that nothing will be done in the former without his knowleg, nor in the other without his advys. Let not jalosies for superfiціаль matters disgrace, feing he hafardes boyth body and faull for 144. peace. (the Q. of England), the caractēr of whose faced name is, and ever shall be, as he

¹ This has been written Ballantine, and is altered to Freyer.—Freyer probably should read Fraser.

² Mrs Everett Green, in sending a transcript of this letter, here adds,—“ I fancy these are pseudonyms; but there is no explanation interlined. The letter is all in Colville’s hand, except the interlineations: I do not know whose they are. They are not Cecil’s, nor Sir Henry Neville’s, nor Thomas Phelippe’s, the great decypherer, with which I have compared them. The cypher is curious, because after each *figure* cypher an expletive word is used, which has to be omitted in the reading.”

fayis and sweares, ingraved in his hart. Nether hes .Apryll. (Colvill), as he fayis, written, or shall writ, anything wharof yow wer not and shall be forwarnit.

(*Indorsed*) The principall lettre to Justus.¹

TO MRS COLVILLE FROM HER HUSBAND.

MY HART,

1601.
March 7.

After a perlus and panfull jurney,² I am returnit, all thanks to God, the 3 of this instant, to Paris. My panes I will not recont, left I shuld eik sorrow to your sorrow, which is not my mynd too. I wis with all my hart that yours wer layd on my bak.

I had promis, and, suppos I say it, I have done what I could to deserve it, that yow shuld have been defrayit and transported; and now I have againe writtin in sie fort as I trust shall do the turn.

Let Thome be weill preparit, in cais he be callit on by sunn honest man, to sehaw your debts and myne thair to Ro. Long, and to that hous, and of your expenses for your transport. As to Robert, fuerly I cannot think on the half of that he gevis wp in compt, nor of that which I have geven him: alway I man refer it to his conscience, offring with good will the half of that he seekis, as I have writtin to him with gret kyndnes; for I man see and not see.

I am glad at my hart that Thome is with you: keap him fill, I pray yow, lyk as trew Thome. By theis I pray yow reman till ye se me; and if ye have any thing to writ from Mr Jeremy, hafard it, if yt be of effect, and writ as once I lernit yow, viz., to tak the letter following to that which ye vold writ; as, for a, tak b; for b, tak c, &c. Item, if ye get anything, geve it out that it is by meanes of the Laird of Wemes: this fail not to do.

My Hart, this anis I befeik yow for patience, or rether, I allow and thank yow infinitely for your patience, that hes na exempill. Wo is

¹ See foot-note, p. 303.

² This must refer to his journey to Rome.

me that your vertew has bene matchit with sic adverstete. It is all for my fins. O Lord! lay the punishment on me allone, if that be your gratius plefor.

Commend me to my dear enfante Forbyn. O Lord! O Lord! comfort and fend hir your grafe.

Advertis me what Tho. Nicollfone dothe thair, and of his estat; and thus I commend yow to Godd's protectiun, this 7 of Martij 1601.

Your husband,

Jo. COLVILLE.

My faythfull Thome, reveve my harty commendacions.

To my dear bedfallow, Jenet Colville,
at London.

This letter was openit wp be myself.¹

HENRY LOK TO CECYLL.

I WAS at the writing of my last letter so distracted in minde with the strangnes of the report written owt of Frans (as your Honor faith) of my imployment of Nicollfon, or giving forth myself now an actor in any thing, especially concerning Bothwel (from whos actions I euer knew your Honor's alienated affection, and my own in his particular of long time not careful (further, then as by his offers owt of Flanders of fernis to this estate, preferd by the Erle of Effex and by hir Majestie, in sum tearms imbrafed), I was by that authority and probable reason drawn unto), that I forgot al particular justification of my self from so forged an imputation, which I suppose none (but such impostors as that shifting sosity of Coluil or Nicollfon) cowlde or wold haue quoined. From both which how carefully I haue kept my self theas many years

1603.
May 12.

¹ Indorsed by Sir Rob. Cecyll, "Lettre of John Colvyll, directed to Sir H. Nevyl;" but this indorsement probably refers to the previous decyphered letter, page 300, which was evidently an enclosure in this.

(having bin so depely bitten before by thair dremed practises), I know I can mak nifible, though thaim felvs wold cownterfet neuer so coningly (which is thair professiōn), having neuer sent nor retained any inter-coors of intelligens from the one, sins his apostasi from God, and natine alegeans to his Prins, neither did releave the other; but as he was first imploid (unknown to me) in servis of oure state (by Mr Hudson's and Mr Wade's preferment), and apered to be in grace with his Majestie by diuers lettres and by Scotish mens and his own report, and was in fine commended espesially to my care, by futch of his Majesty's inward servants and imploiment as had powre to command me. In whos respect, and partly I confes (in hope to recouer my losses, incurd by me through his cofenages), I did eary ouer with me (owt of perpetual captiuitie and misery) that vnfound body and vnclen minde of T. Nicol[son], who, pretending dayly hope of relese from home, or means by freand abrode, drue me by degreas (to my cost) to leade him to Auignon, wher, smelling more of his forgeris, I resolued where I¹ did leane him clean at Marfeyles; here he hath stayed theas 10 or 12 weakes to accompany one Malins, a Flemish jueler, into Italy or Spain. From him I neuer hard sins the begening of March, by a lettre of excuse of the fals and dishonest parts offered me, with which I chardged him with: I wold now send your Honor, but that it standeth me much vppon (for clerling my inofensy) to referu it safely, which (if your Honor please I return) I shal produse at ani time, els wil I send it by the next safe mesenger. In the mean time I beseech yow let my credit and discretiōn be held in suspens, and axcuse my hard stile, ouer bitter (contrary to my nature or custōm) against the absent, which indede I doe wittingly to iritate thos vipers (if, as is likly, and I with thay cum to the knowledg of theas lettres), that so thay may disgordg thair poison against me, wherby my inofensy from any vndutiful actiōn or intention may the better apere. In the mean time your Honor hath Maners with yow, who I craue may be examened, as one knowing instrumentally al that hath passed betwixt Bothwel, Nicolson, and me, or indede our estate of late; and I dowpt not but your Honor may caws him to reueale Coluil's doble dealing

¹ For "where I resolved to leave him clean at Marselles."

lately and dayly with your Honor. For Bothwel, I acknowledg that I haue bin euer willing, if I had fene a safe means to haue drawn him to performans of his offer, and his Majesties expectation of sum good seruise from him, if his imployments and credit in Spain drue him to be able to deserue wel of our estate or his contry, by discouering, preuenting, of defeting of thair purposes against vs; and wold also gladly by his means haue procured a pas to see Spain, both for my better experens and credit; from which purposes, purfutes, diuers reasons (long before I knew the state of this time) did, I protest, withdraw me. So as I haue neuer written to him since his departure from Scotland, nor receiued lettre from him since More was imployd to the Erle of Effex, neither delt with him vnderdirected. And thus much I beseech your (if any name be in question), let his Majestie vnderstand and see as a thing which, on my credit, I wil iustifye, and I trust by futeh as his Majestie hath and doth trust. In the mean time I beseech your Honor, let my particular estate be remembred with your Honor, and I be in soom sort informed of my staye, return, imployment, for place or means.¹ As being one as desirous by trauel of life to perform dutifull seruise to his Majestie and your Honor, as vnable (withowt a gratius aspect) to breath one comfortable howre. My dutifull profeding towards his Majestie (with all futeh respects as the times, occasions, and my reale coors in my imployments wold permit), I dowpt not ar known or thal apere to his Majestie, if his then imployed instruments dishardg thair duty to his Majestie, and defraud me not of that right which thay haue

¹ Nothing very certain is known regarding Henry Lok or Locke beyond the circumstance of his having been employed by the English Secretaries of State in various negotiations, which occasionally brought him to Scotland. He probably was the son of Henry Lok, merchant in London, and Mrs Anna Lok (Knox's correspondent), who was one of the English exiles at Geneva during Queen Mary's reign. In 1591, he addressed a Sonnet to King James, which is prefixed to "His Majestie's Poeticall Exercises;" and in 1597, he published at London, "Ecclesiastes, or the Preacher, in English poesie. Composed by H. L. Gentleman." In this volume he added, "Sundrie Christian Passions, contained in 200 Sonnets." After the date of the above letter, he appears, from letters in 1605 and 1608, addressed to Sir Robert Cecyll (then raised to the Peerage as Earl of Salisbury), to have been in difficulties, and confined for debt, and soliciting employment. See Mrs Everett Green's most valuable Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Series. London, 1857, royal 8vo.

often vowed, and I haue really, to the aduanment of thair credits, deferued; vppon which assurans I confidently persist in a hope that God wil raies me vp foom meanes to liue in no les good confait with his Majestie for my loyalty and industry, then (withowt boasting I record it) I deferued, and to my high comfort retained and euer enjoyed with hir Majestie of blessed memory, and sucessefully shold expect from his Majestie, the true acknowliger (I trust) and acquiter of hir loial and profitable seruants, as of negotiators for his present good, to which al hir Majesties graue deliberations especially (though secondarily) did tend. And thus, in al humility, commending my hole fortunes to your Honoris benign considerations, and your constant progres in al honor and happines to the heuenly direction,

I rest ever your Honoris, in al duty,

HENRY LOK.

Paris, 12 May 1603.

A P P E N D I X.

LISTS AND CHARACTERS OF THE NOBILITY OF SCOTLAND, DURING THE REIGN OF KING JAMES THE SIXTH.—1583—1602.

I.—A BRIFFE OPINION OF THE STATE, FACTION, RELIGION, AND POWER OF THE SEVERALL NOBLE MENN IN SCOTLANDE, AS THEY DWELL, NOT PLACINGE THEM ACCORDINGE TO THEIR GREATNES, DEGREE, OR ANTIQUITIE, VNDER THE RAIGNE OF KINGE JAMES VI. ANNO DOMINI 1583.

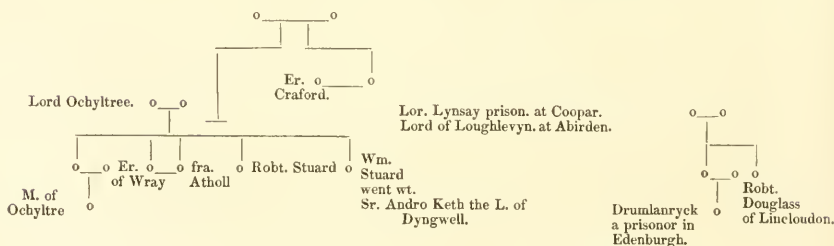
[See this printed in the Bannatyne Miscellany, Vol. i. pp. 51-72. Edinb. 1827. It is there introduced with the following note, contributed by Sir Walter Scott:—

“ The English Princes, since the reign of Henry VIII., had made the important discovery, that they could more easily avoid the dangers to be apprehended from Scotland, by supporting and encouraging a party within the kingdom itself, than by force of arms. The progress of the Reformation in Scotland tended greatly to favour this course of policy, since the Protestant Nobles were easily induced to look to England for support, even at some risk of national independence, when they beheld the power of France exerted on the part of the Catholics. The following list, evidently made up by one of the English envoys or agents, is curious, as shewing the state of these two contending parties, and the respective influence of the Nobility engaged in either faction, about the year 1583.”]

II.—A LIST OF SCOTTISH NOBLES, AND SOME GENEALOGICAL MEMORANDA OF THE STEWARTS AND OTHERS, MAY 1584.—(IN THE HANDWRITING OF WILLIAM LORD BURGHLEY.)

1584.	Er. Huntley.	Archb. of St Androos.
May.	Er. Rothofs, Lieutenant of Scotland.	Bish. of Glasguoo.
(STATE	Er. Craforth.	
PAPER	Er. Montrofs, L. Treforer.	
OFFICE.	Er. Arran, L. Chancellor.	
Vol. xxxvi.	Er. of Orknay.	
No. 113.)	Er. of March.	
	Erle of Bocqwhan.	
	Er. of Arroll.	
	Er. of Glancarn.	
	Er. of Montgomery.	
	Er. of Eglynton.	
	Er. Monteth.	
	Er. Morton.	

Coronell Stuard. o—o



Grayhym, Lard Fenytre.

III.—THE NAMES OF THE HEADES PRESENTLY ENTERING INTO THE ACTION¹ IN SCOTLAND, viz:—

THE ERLS AND OTHERS.

The Erle of Anguffie.
 The Erle of Atholl.
 The Erle of Marr.
 The Erle of Gowrye.
 The M^r of Glammes.

[1584.]
 S. P. O.
 (Vol. xxxviii.
 No. 88.)

The names of fuche as wilbe helpers after the a^ction begone, and which be nowe in foliciting:—

The Erle of Marshell.
 The Erle of Bothewell.
 The Lord Lindfey.
 The Lard of Sefforde.
 The L. of Coldenknowes.

The names of fuche as have geven consent eyther to joyne or ells not to hynder the a^ction.

The Erle of Argyle.
 The Erle of Rothoufe.
 The Lord Forbes.
 The Lord Oliphant.
 With many other great Barons.

The Lard of Bodenheathe, younger sone to the Lord Boyde, redye with his forces, who will eyther gett the Erles Glencarne and Eglentoun into the a^ction, or at leaft to hold backe and doe no hurt.

Indorsed.—Names of the Nobilitye in Scotland, &c.

¹ A projected conspiracy to overturn Arran's administration, but which proved unsuccessful, in April 1584.—(See Tytler's History, vol. viii. p. 163.)

IV.—A LIST, IN THE WRITING OF SIR FRANCIS WALSHINGHAM, OF THE NOBLES IN SCOTLAND, SOUNDLY AFFECTED, NEUTRAL, OR OPPOSED TO ENGLAND, 1585.

[1585.] S. P. O. (Vol. xxxviii. No. 87.)		The L. of Arbrothe.	
	Sowndely af- fected.	The E. of Angufhe.	
		The E. of Mar.	
		The E. Marfhall.	
	Affected.	The E. Bothewell. The E. Athell.	
	Neutralls.	The E. Morton. The E. Glencarne. The E. Rothos.	
	Well affected.	The L. Hume. The L. Cefseford. The M ^r of Glammes. The Humes. The Carres.	
	Ennemyes.	Montroffe. Hunteley. Crawforde.	
	By the procurement of, firft, as him felf confeffethe, Duntrithe charged the	1. E. Angufhe, 2. E. Marre, 3. M. Glammes,	{ Conspirators } agannst the { K. perfon.
	He charged alfo	Dromeweffel	whoe was exeecuted.

Indorsed.—The difpofition of certeine
of the LL. in Scotlande.

V.—A NOTE OF SUCHE NOBLE MEN AND GENTELMEN IN SCOTLANDE THAT BE AFFECTIONED TO FRAUNCE, RECEVERS AND MAYNTEYNERS OF THE ENEMYES TO GOD, AND ENEMYES TO OUR PRYNCE, AS HERE FOLOWETH:—

Inprimis Th'erle of Arun.
Th'erle of Muntrois.
The Lordis Secretarye.

1585.
S. P. O.
(Vol. xxxviii.
No. 90.)

For the North parte of Scotland, about Aberdeine,—

Th'erle of Huntley.
Th'erle of Huntley his brother, a Jefuyte.
Th'erle of Crafforde.
The Lorde of Fentrie and his too fonnnes, receivers of the Jefuytes and of the money out of Fraunce, and payers to those that be practyfers in Scotlande.
The L. Graye.
The L. of Downe, Collector of Scotland.
The L. of Seton and his too brothers.

For the West parte of Scotland, at Eyer.
The L. of Ogeltree, th'Erle of Arun his father.
The L. Mountegle, otherwife called Mountgomery.
The Bishop of Glasco.
The L. Harris, receiver of the Jefuytes.
The L. Thornehurfte.

VI.—THE NAMES OF SUCH SCOTCHE LORDES AS DESIRES TO DRAWE COURSE BE FRANCE, 1585.

Huntly,	-	-	-	-	-	Katholike,	F.	1585.
Claud Hamelton, who is thought to be the only rueler of the other brother, is both	-	-	-	-	-	Katholik and for	F.	S. P. O. (Vol. xxxviii. No. 91.)

Morton, and L. Herrife, his cofin, both	- K. and for	F.
Arroll, both	- - - - - K. and for	F.
Arran that was, confefes of lat to be a	- - K. and for	F.
Crouner Steuert for	- - - - -	F.
Montrofe, a faverer of the Queene of Scotland, and	-	F.
The Secretary lets the Queenes freinds underftand quietly that ther is not one in the world that he doth both love and honour fo much as he doth here.		
Sr Robert Melven in the fame ftat, and for	- -	F.
The L. of Doune, and the Erle of Morrie his fonne like wyfhe, for the Queene and	- - - - -	F.
Lord Levefton, a fpeffiall faverer of the Q. and Ka.		
The old L. Seton's fonnes,	- - - - - K.	F.
L. Athell, L. Huime, and Leftarike, Katheliks, but folowes the Mr of Gray for faccion.		
The Leard of Fenntrey, a meareft Kathelike,	- -	F.
The moft part of the others wilbe as the King will have them to be, ether elfe folowe ther faccion of thefe other Lordes, fawing Angus and Mar, who ar a faccion themfelves.		
For Boodwell, he is nether here nor ther, and fo are moft of the others that I do not name, but would feeke the owne commo- ditie, howe ever they mought com be it.		

Indorsed.—The names of the Nobylitie of Scotland that are affected to France.

VII.—LIST OF SCOTTISH NOBLES, WHETHER AFFECTED TO FRANCE OR ENGLAND, 1586.

[1586.]	Erle of Huntley,	K.	F.
S. P. O.	Erle of Morton,	K.	F.
(Vol. xxxviii.	L. Claud Hamilton,	K.	F.
No. 89.)	E. Craford,		F.
	E. of Arroll,	K.	F.

L. Montroffe,		F.
The late Erle of Arran,	K.	F.
L. of Downe,		F.
L. Cornell Stuart,		F.
Secretarie, doubtfull.		
S ^r Rob. Melvin,		F.
The ould L. Seaton's fonnes,	K.	F.
Lard of Fentrie,	K.	F.
Erle of Anguife,		E.
E. of Marr,		E.
M ^r of Gray,		E.

Indorsed.—A note, shewing howe certeine of the Nobylitie of Scotland are affected.

VIII.—THE PRESENT STATE OF SCOTLAND, 1586.

WITH THEIR PARTICULAR DISPOSITIONS.¹

I. THE KING'S DISPOSITION TOWARDS

RELIGION.—*Well and soundly affected, as may bee presumed, by these reasons.*—1. His exercife in hearing the woord of God allmoft daily, viz., on Soondayes, fornoon and afternoon, on Wenfdayes and Frydayes, in the forenoon, beydes a chapter read, with foome expofition, after every meal. Which, bycaufe it is doon fo often and ordinarily, it is to bee fupposed that hee doeth it fyncearly and to good effect. Hearto, that he is never abfent from his ordinary fermons but hee giveth notice before to his Preacher, which argueth foome regard hee hath of his abfence, which, notwithstanding, falleth owt very feldom. 2. His promptnes in the Scriptures, whearin he is thought to bee as pregnant and ready, by the teftimonie of the Minifters them felves, as any man within his realm, and his judgment in ufing and applyeng them, beeing able to confirm any fpeciall point of doctrine

1586.
S. P. O.
(Vol. xli.
No. 73.)

¹ The words in italics are underlined in the original.

by sufficient reason out of the word. Whearby appeareth that hee hath the knowledg and persuasion of the truth. 3. His care to give good example to other by reformatory soomtime on the Soondayes to the ordinary sermons in Edenborough Church, and his patience in hearing him self publicly reprov'd and admonish'd by the Preachers there, though they speak home, and with much libertie. Heartoe his remitting his displeasure towards certaine Preachers, viz., Mr Watfson and Gybson, which, though it wear obtained with soom difficultie, yet at length hee remitted all freely, without any satisfaction, which few Princes would have doon in lyke case. Soom hard construction is made of his gesture and behaviour at the publique sermons, whear hee useth soomtime to talk with soom that stand by him, specially with Mr Peter Young; which, though it wear better forbore and reserved for privat, yet for that it is of soomthing spoken by the Preacher, and not captiously (so farre as I can learn), may bee well interpreted. 4. His often and earnest protestations, as at the Generall Assembly of the Ministers, at the arraignment of L. Maxwell, Herrise, &c., whear hee made a large and earnest profession of his love towards the truth, with a detestation of Poperie in the Tolbuth publicly, besydes privatly to Mr Randolph, to soom of his company, at thair departing, to that effect that hee would defend the Gospell with the los of his crown, lyfe, and all. 5. His often and open trites and deriding of Poperie in his common talk. 6. His denyeng masse to the French Ambassadour. 7. His life and conversation, which, though it bee touch'd soomwhat with the common faults and misbehaviour of the countrey, viz., with swearing soomtime, &c. (whearof a speciall cause is want of found company about him), yet hee keepeth it in good order, and (as a young Prince) is of a stayed behaviour, void of licentiousnes and notorious faults, shewing good signes of modestie, as blushing soomtime when hee speaketh in presence, and as hee sheweth outwardly; and the report is of those which ar nearest about him, very chaste, and yet desirous of marriage. *Towards the discipline of the Church hee seemeth not soundly affected, bycause (as hee hath been persuaded by soom, and sheweth by plain signes that hee hath that impression), it holds within compasse, and takes away from the Prince's authoritie, which hee thincketh littell enough in Scotland as it is.*

2. ENGLAND.—*Sound and true, as it seemeth, for these reasons:—*1. The apparant respects he sheweth towards England for the matter of successiōn, wherein hee seemeth to have made this resolution, *that it is a better and readier cours for him to attain to it by favour out of England, and to strengthen him self that way then by confederacie with any other forrein, as France, &c.* Reasons of this presumption.—The report of divers near about him, which say that hee is fully so resolved, and professeth it to them, to keep in with England for that respect, howsoever things fall out. The late matter of the League, wherein, notwithstanding divers dissuasions of the aduerse part, and soomthings on our part, that otherwise might have gon against stomak, viz., *The articles framed muche more for our benefit then for theirs. The not subscribing to the Instrument for the not præjudicing his succession, which hee took to bee a promise and condition. The defalking of one thousand pound from the pension money, &c.*, he digested all, to conlude the amitie. 2. For that Fraunce faileth him for pension, &c., and hee seeth the confused state thear to incline towards the better part, viz., Navarre, of whome hee vseth to speak muche honour; and objected against the late Ambassadour, the dishonourable and perfidious dealing of the K. of Fr. towards him and the rest in breaking the pacification, &c., which hee speaketh muche against; beydes, hee knoweth his Mother's friends thear, viz., the Guilian part, to eary more respects to his Mother then to him. And though hee seemeth not to have lost all affection to his Mother, notwithstanding those foul parts, yet (as they about him will speak) hee had rather have hir as shee is, then him self to give hir place: Hearto his colld intertainment and slight conference with the French Ambassadour, both publique and privat. 3. For that hee seeth that this amitie with England, specially for the article of not receiving fugitives, &c., and other assistaunce, aweth the factions at home of his Nobilitie, which otherwise hee must needs fear and dowbt more.

3. PARTS AT HOME.—Generally hee seemeth desirous of peace, as appeareth by his disposition and exercises, viz., 1. His great delight in hunting; 2. his private delight in enditing poesies, &c. In one or both

of these commonly hee spendeth the day, when hee hath no publike thing to doe. 3. His desire to withdraw him self from places of most access and company to place of more solitude and repast, with very small retinue, which may endanger his person, if any good way should be made from the Highlands, which having the K. have all. 4. His readines to compose matters that might trouble his peace, though with some disadvantage; yet, as should seem, in the same mynd with his predecessors, viz., not content with the hand the Nobilitie hath over him. For that cause, it may be thought hee entertained James Steward, and advanced him to be Earle Arran, to encounter him with some other of the Nobilitie that wear lykelyest to keep the Government *in statu quo*, and to abate their authority, by some other of new creation.

Towards the EE. Anguse and Marre hee may seem scarce foundly affected, notwithstanding the reconciliation. *Presumptions*, 1. For that the reconciliation was violent, and therefore to be suspected. 2. For that hee counteth it yet a great dishonour to him that they wear so restored home, as appeareth by that hee speaketh still of Mr Wotton, for his close departing, viz., that hee might have used the matter better, and have ben made a mean for the restoring them, with the saving of his honour, reckoning it a dishonour to him still that they wear so restored, and their dutifull dealing afterwards no sufficient recompence to salve that dishonour, but (as it is now thought) rather a fear and dissolutenes in them. 3. For that in outward appaunce thear seemeth to be but a drines betwixt the K. and those Lords. 4. For that hee suffreth a fewd to grow betwixt the EE. Marr and Bothwell, and doth not stopp it bytimes, as content to have him in dislyke with other of the Nobilitie.

Towards Arran, James Steward.—It is commonly supposed that hee beareth him some secret favour.—*Presumptions of it*, 1. *Because* hee suffred him to continue within his realm so long time after his proscription, and gave him twoe monthes more after the time expired, and his repulse out of Ireland. 2. For that hee hath his brother, Sir W. Steward, very near about him, who giveth out that his brother James shall be in place again ear long, as high as before, and speaketh it con-

fidently. 3. Bycaufe hee fuffreth him and his wyfe to enioy fuche jewells as they had conveyed from him, and urgeth it not greatly. 4. For that the day after the Ambaffadour's departing from the L. Bothwel's, whear hee left the King, it is fayed for a certaintie that Arran cam thither and conferred with the King. 5. On near about the K. and whome hee ufeth familiarly (though otherwife of noe great account for publique matter), after a good large cup taken in, told me in myne ear, fitting by him, that I fhould hear of an other alteration thortly of the Noble men about the K. *These may make soom doubt and fufpition of the K. reclining towards that state whearin thinges wear before. But it is to bee thought verily that his respects towards England will keep him in the same tenour hee is now, in case hee perceyve a diflyke hear still of Arran's restoaring, &c., a favour towards the other LL.*

II. THE NOBILITIES DISPOSITION.

1. ENGLISH PART.—The Earles Angufe and Marr, Earle of Glencarn, LL. Hamiltons, Mr Glames, in pretence, Mr Grey. The EE. Angufe and Marr, beyde foom doubt of the Kinges favour towards them, feem to bee of no great authoritie, fave with their own clients and followers; for that they ar fuppofed to have delt very flightly and negligently in their late aëtion, and not to have performed their promife, nor anfweared the expectation conceived of them for the found reformation of religion, and thinges about the King, but omitting the opportunitie of ftrengthening the better part, and weakning the woorfe, retired them felves to their particulars, as content with their refitution to their own privat; and this is the common talk among the better and more religious fort, tending altogither to the diflyking of them and their dooings, infomuch that (as it is fayed) if they wear again to coom in, feare a man would put forth his hand to byd them wellcoom. The adverfe part feem, for the fame caufe, not only to hate them, but to contemn them, imputing this their remiffe or gentle dealing to lack of courage and wifdloom. Divers of the Noble men that took part with them in their late aëtion ar now in drinefs, or quarrell with them, as Earle Bothwell with the E. Marre, about a part taking with his brother-in-law, for which hee threatneth to have his lyfe, and ufeth to fay now

that Arran and his part was far better than they. Maxwell, that fought only revenge upon Arran, is grieved at the E. Angufe, about the title of Mourton, which was evicted from him by the E. Angufe since his reftoaring.

The *Mr Grey*, fure to England, well beloved, and followed of the active and militarie fort, of very good and great parts, and thearfore to bee confirmed by all good means, fpecially in refpect of the motives that carried him to the Englifh part; heed to bee taken that no difhonour nor contumelie bee offered him, as the late varieng about his employment into Flaunders was like to be conftrued. If hee could bee fo wrought hear and in Flaunders, that his favour and offices toward England might ftand upon a religious ground, as they doe upon honour, it wear better for him felf, and furer for hir Majestie.

L. Cloyd, for many causes, may be suspected, though hee bee *Englifh in pretence*. The feereat conference hee was fayd to have with the French Ambaffadour the time of his beeing thear, and with that part which make reekoning of him as of their own. His behaviour and countenance towards the Englifh Ambaffadour and his company, which, though it had foom fhew and collour of friendship fett upon it, yet by divers fignes, might eafly appear that it was nothing but counterfait and forced. The courfe of his life paff, which, by report of their ftory, &c. feemeth to have been ambitious, cruell, difsembling, &c.; as having this fcope to trouble the ftate thear, fo muche as might bee for foom confequence that might fall owt to the howfe of Hamiltons.

His want and need, which not beeing fupplied by foom penfion, &c. owt of England (as divers of them looked for, and would plainly and openly fpeak of), might the rather move him to tourn his hope toward Fraunce for foomthing thence, as it feemeth he hath doon. His brother *L. Hamilton* fheweth friendly; and beeing of an honeft and religious difpofition (as the better fort report of him), it may bee thought hee meaneth foundly. The *M^r Glammes* pretendeth well, but is familiar with the neutrall part, namely, with the Secretarie; byfide, the fhew and apparaunce of his friendship beareth no lyfe in it, but a fadnes and drinefs, which may argue foom double and doubtfull meaning.

The English part seemeth but small and weak, but strengthened at this tyme by the K. favour and disposition toward England.

2. FRENCH PART.—*E. Huntley, Sutherland, Cathnesse; L. Flemming, Serton, Maxwell, &c. of the Popish faction.*—Though presently quiet, for that foom of them ar but young, and Fraunce in fiate as it is, yet seemeth to bee strong and apt inough to move, when they may gitt opportunitie to trouble the peace and amitie with England. In that respect not unlykely to joign with Arran, who is fayed to have folicted divers of them toward the North, having allfo favourers in the South, and is now towards Fraunce, as may seem, upon foom compact and confederacie, to refume that courfe with them, in the mean while having layed thinges a ripening at ho[me] againft a good time. *It would m[ake] [th]inges surer thear, if hee wear intercepted.*

3. NEUTRAL.—*Secretarie Matelan, and soom other that looked for pension and reward out of England of lute, and wear disappointed, as Justice Clerk, Gl., &c., with those that wear neutral in religion, and parts before, as E. Errol, Orkney, Montrose, Bothwell; L. Hay, &c.*—Whearof foom deal not in matters at all, but fail still with the wynd. Soom (as the Secretarie) perfwade a middle courfe, not to ioign with Fraunce, &c. (for that they will seem to have foom regard of religion, and conceive no great hope out of Fraunce), nor yet to follow England, or depend on favour thence, but to ioign with foom Proteftant Prince of good power in fure league, viz. by marriage, as well to relieve the Kinges present want by dowrie as to strengthen him hereafter in the action of his claim to England, &c., and fo to hold farre of, that England may rather seek and follow them then they England. *This is thought by soom to bee the special end of the ambassage into Denmark, under pretence of the matter of the Orcaedes.*

III. THE COMMONS DISPOSITION.

The religious part follow England. That number seemeth not great, specially after so long preaching of the Ghospel and the use of discipline. The causes, 1. The licence and disorder of most part of the Nobilitie, that

can bear no yoaik, and draw their followers, clients, &c. after them by their example. 2. Their often mutinies and disturbances, that dissolve all order, ecclesiasticall and civil. The best affected ar of Edenborough, and soom of the greater townes in the south part. The rest of the common sort follow the faction, and their Lords part, &c.

*Indorsed by Mr Thomas Randolph.—
The Prefent State of Scotlande, 1586.*

IX.—ALL THE EARLES OF SCOTLAND, WITH THEIR SURNAMES AND YEARS, BY ESTIMATION, FOR PRESENT LIVING, ANNO 1586 :—

	Male contents.	Surnames.	Years.
1586.	M. Duke of Lennox,	a Stuard,	- - xiii.
S. P. O.	A. Earle of Anguifhe,	a Douglaffe,	- - xxvi.
(Vol. xli.	M. Earle of Crawford,	a Lindfey,	- - xxvi.
No. 96.)	Do. Earle of Castells,	a Kennet,	- - x.
	M. Earle of Eglenton,	a Montgombraze,	- - xxiii.
	M. Earle of Huntley,	a Gordon,	- - xxvi.
	Do. Earle of Argyle,	a Camill,	- - xii.
	A. Earle of Bothwell,	a Stuard,	- - xxiii.
	M. Earle of Glencarne,	a Connenghame,	- - xxxv.
	Do. Earle of Atholl,	a Stuard,	- - xxiv.
	M. Earle of Murrey,	a Stuard,	- - xxiii.
	M. Earle of Rothofe,	a Lifley,	- - lx.
	M. Earle of Mountroffe,	a Greame,	- - lx.
	M. Earle of Mountiche,	a Greame,	- - lx.
	M. Earle of Sutherland,	a Gordon,	- - xxxii.
	M. Earle of Cathenes,	a Sincklerery,	- - xx.
	A. Earle of Marre,	a Earfken,	- - xxiii.
	Do. Earle of Marchall,	a Keithe,	- - xxxvi.
	Do. Earle of Morton,	a Maxwell,	- - xxxvi.
	M. Earle of Arrell,	a Hey,	- - xxx.
	M. Earle of Orkney,	a Stuard,	- - lv.

who is bafe fon to King James the Fifth.

- 13 · 5 · 3 · Earle of March, a Stuard, - - lxx.
 who is brother to the King's grandfire, the Earle
 of Lennox, that was flaine at Sterlinge, whose wife,
 Captain James Stuard, that late was Earle of Arran,
 and now difcoorted, hath married, his wife, by whom
 he hath many children.
- Do. The Lord of Arbroth, a Hamelton, - - lx.
 who is Duke Chateleroiz, eldest fon, next to the
 Earle of Arran, his brother, yet liveing, being luna-
 ticke; fo that Captain James Stuard, that late was
 Earle of Arran, and now difcoorted, was but an
 ufurper.
- M. The Lord Gloyde [Claude], a Hamelton, - - xlii.
 younger brother to the Lord of Arbroth.

All the Earles of Scotland, with their
 furnames and years, in anno 1586.

X.—A NOTE OF THE ESPECIAL PARTICULARITIES CONCERNING THE
 PRESENT ESTATE OF THE NOBILITY HERE IN SCOTLAND, (WITH
 GENEALOGICAL NOTICES BY LORD BURGHELY).

April 10,

1589.

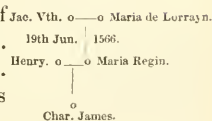
S. P. O.

(Vol. xliiii.)

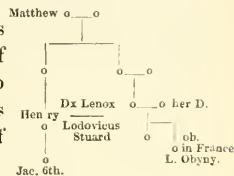
No. 53.)

ERLES.

1. CHARLES JAMES STUART, K. of Scotland, borne in the Caſtle of
 Edinburgh, the xixth of June 1566. His father, the L. Henry, L.
 Darnly, D. of Albany, E. of Roſſe, ſonne and heire to the E. of Lennox.
 His mother, the La. Mary Stuart, Q. of Scots, daughter by K. James
 the Vth, by his ſecond wife, the Lady Mary of Lorraine.



2. D. OF LENNOX. Lodovic Stuart, of the age of xv^{ten} years. His
 father, firſt L. Obony, by marriage in France, and after created E. of
 Lennox by K. James the VIth. His grandfather was ſecond brother to
 Matthew E. of Lennox. So this D. to this K. cofen once removed. His
 Ma^{ty} hath geven him, beſides his father's Dukedome, the Baronry of



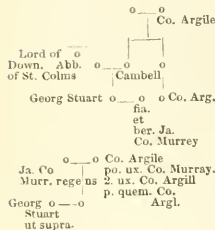
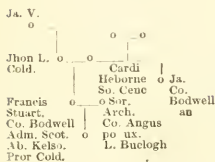
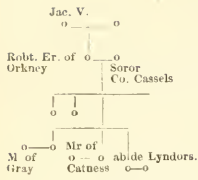
Methfan, since the decease of the late L. Meffan. His cheife demeanes belonginge to the duchie ar in Lennos, to the barony of Methfan in Perthshire. His yonger brother, brought up in France, to enioy the Baronie of Obonie there. His eldest sifter, lately bestowed in mariage by the K. upon the E. Huntley, with the Abbacie of Donformline for her dowrey.

3. E. OF ORKNEY and L. of Shetland, Robert Stuart, *vulgò*, the L. Robert of 60 years, bafe sonne to K. James the Vth. His wife, a Kenetic, sifter to th'E. of Casfills. His sonne and heire of xx^{tie} years. His second sonne Commendator of Whitthern. Three of his daughters married, one to the M^r of Grey, another to the M^r of Cathnes, the Erl's brother, the third to the Abbote of Lindorfe, the E. of Rotheffe second sonne. His livinge in the Yles of Orkney and Shetland.

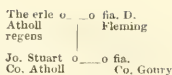
4. E. BODWELL, L. Admirall of Scotland, great M^r of the Horse, Sherif of Lowdian, Provost of Hadinton, Abbot of Kelfie, Prior of Coldingham, Lord of Liddisdale, &c. Francis Stuart of 26 years. His father, John L. of Coldingham, bafe sonne to K. James the Vth. His mother, a Heburne, sifter and heire to James late E. Boduel. His wife, a Duglas, sifter to the late E. of Angus, before widow to the old Lard of Bocklughe, and mother to this Lard now livinge. His sonne and heire of v years. His lands lie aunfwerable to his files.

5. E. OF MORRAY, George Stuart, of xxi^{tie} years. His father, the Lord of Downe, and Abbot of St Colms. His mother, a Cambel, sifter to the old E. of Argile, and this Erl's aunte. His wife, a Stuart, daughter and heire to the old E. of Murry (late Regent, and bafe sonne to K. James the Vth, and sifter by the mother's side to this E. of Argile, her mother being first Countesse of Murry, and after of Argile. So him selfe cofen germaine (his wife halfe sifter to this E. of Argile). His sonne and heire of two years. His lands in Murrey.

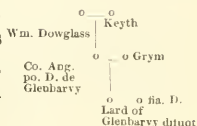
6. E. OF ATHOL, Jo. Stuart of 26 years. His father, John E. of Athol, fometimes Regent. His mother, daughter to the L. Fleming, by



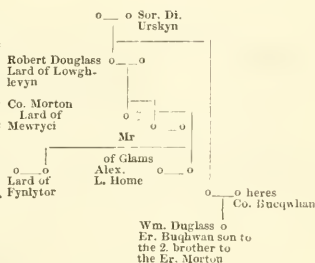
a bafe fifter of K. James the Vth, before Counteffe of Montroffe, and mother to this E. of Montroffe now living. His wife, daughter to the late E. of Gowrey, and fifter to this yonge Erle. His children yonge and many. His lands in Athol, Perthfhire, and Stratherne.



7. E. OF ANGUS, Wm. Douglas, late Lard of Glenbarvie, of lx years. His mother, a Keith. His wife, a Grime, of the Larde of Morphie's houfe. His eldefit fonne, the yonge Lard of Glenbarvie, a Catholique, married to the Lord Olyphant's daughter. His lands in Angufe and Marre.

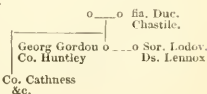


8. E. OF MURTON, Robert Douglas, late Lard of Loughlevine, of 50 years. His mother, a Herkin, fifter to the old E. of Marre, fometimes Regent. His wife, a Lefly, fifter to the E. of Rothes. His eldit fonne, firft husband to the late Counteffe of Angus, died in the hand of the Dunkirkers. His heire now living, the Lard of Niewri, married the late L. of Glames his fifter. His daughters married, one to the M^r of Glams; one, firft to the M^r of Olyphant, and now, fince his death, to the L. Hume; another to the Lard of Finlitor, and other unmarried. His living, in Fife, Tuedale, Nidifdale, Daketh.



9. E. OF BUQHUN, N. Douglas, of xv^{ten} years. His father, yonger brother to this E. Murton. His mother, a Stuart, heire to N. Stuart, late E. of Buqhane. His lands in Buqhane and Merins.

10. E. HUNTLEY, Lieutenant to his Ma^{tie} in the North, Abbote of Donfermline, and lately Cap^{ten} of the Guard. George Gourdon of 28 years. His mother, daughter to D. Hamilton, and fifter to the L. Jo. and Claude. She decaffed diftraught. His wife, fifter to the D. of Lennox, preffently great with childe. His brother of 23 years. His fifter married to the E. of Cathneffe. His lands in Loqhnaiber, Baydenoch, Straboggy, Boggigicht, Ainya, Morray, Fife, and fom in Argile.



o — o Sor.
 Math.
 Co. Lennox
 Gordon o — o
 Er. of Sor.
 Sother- Co. Huntly.
 land Sem. uzor.
 Co. Bodwell.

11. E. OF SOTHERLAND, N. Gordon, of 32 years. His mother, sifter to the E. of Lennox. His wife, a Gordon, sifter to the old E. Huntly, this man's aunt, before divorced from th'old E. Bodwel. His children many. His lands in Sotherland and Murray.

o — o Sor. L. Fleming
 Jhoos o — o Sor. Da.
 Grym Co. Drommond
 E. Montrose

12. E. OF MONTROSSE, Jo. Grime, of 40 years. His mother, sifter to the L. Fleming, this L. Fleming's grandfather, and after Countess of Athol, mother to this E. Athol. His wife sifter to the L. Dromunde. His heir under age. His daughter married to the L. Fleming now living. His lands in Stirlinshire, Stratherne, and Perthshire.

o — o fia.
 Wm. Grym o — o Drumlanrick
 Er. Monteith

13. E. OF MONTEITH, N. Grime, of 14 years. His mother, a Douglas, daughter to the Lard of Dumblanereke. First married to the L. Sanghar, by whom she had this yonge L. Sanghar now living, and after Countess of Monteith. His living in Monteith.

Keth o — o Hay fia.
 Er. Marshall o — o Co. Arroll
 Jhoos Keth o — o fia. Da.
 Er. Marsh. o — o Hume

14. E. MARSHALL, Jo. Keth, of 34 years. His mother, a Hay of th'E. Erroll's house. His wife half sifter to the L. Hume now living, and daughter to th'old L. Hume by his second wife, the Lard of Sefford's daughter. His children but two, and they very yonge. His lands in Angus, Mernis, and Buqhan.

Collan o
 Cambell
 L. Stuard
 of Scoll.
 and L. Just

15. E. OF ARGILE, Colen Cambel, of 14 years. His mother, a Keith, aunt to this E. Marshall, Countess, first of Murray, and after of Argile. He is, by inheritance, L. Chief Justice and L. High Steward of Scotland, Commander of Lorna, and all the West Isles. His lands dispersed in Argile, Stirlinshire, Lowdian, &c.

Jams o
 Er. of
 Arran

16. E. OF ARREN, Jan. Hamilton, of 57 years. His father, the D. Hamilton. His mother, a Douglas, daughter to th'old E. Murton. Himself lunaticke, and therfor his living disposed by his next brother, the L. Jo. Hamilton, Abbot of Arbroth. His third brother, the L. Claud, Abbot of Passely. His 4th brother, Davy, lunaticke, like him selfe. His sifter, mother to this E. Huntly, died in the like case. His living in Clyddefdale and the Isle of Arran.

17. E. OF ERROLL, Francis Hay, of 26 years, now widower. Third sonne to the late E., but preferred before his elder brethren, in respect of their naturall infirmitie, being both deafe and dumbe. His first wife was a Stuart, younger daughter to the E. of Murray, Regent; the second, a Stuart, sifter to the E. of Athol. He is, by inheritance, Constable of Scotland. His living in Mernis and Gowry.

Franc. Hay Co. Arroll Constab. of S. 1 ux. fia. Co. Mar. 2 or fia. Co. Atholl

18. E. OF MARRE, Jo Erkin, of 26 years, now widower. His wife was sifter to the L. Dromond, who bare him his heire of 5 or 6 years. His lands in Sterlinshire, Tiffedale, Tuedale, Marche, Mernis, and Marre.

Jhou Erskyn Co. Mar. Sor. D. Dromond

19. E. OF CRAWFORTH, N. Lindfay, of 31 years. His mother, a Beton, bafe daughter to the Cardinall. His first wife was sifter to the L. Dromond. His second wife sifter to the E. of Atholl. His children legitimate 2. His next brother, the M^r of Crawforth, and Lard of Kinfans, married Sir Jo. Chesholm's sifter. His livinge in Angus and Fife.

Cardinall Beton
W. Lyndsey Er. Craford
Mr of Craford

20. E. OF GOWREY, N. Ruthven, of 10 years. His father beheaded. His elder brother, late Erle, deceafed in September last, at the age of xiii^{ten} years. His mother, a Stuart, daughter to the L. Methfan. His living in Perthshire, Stratherne, and Gourey.

beheaded 1 ux. fia. 2o L. Methfan
Wm. Ruthven Er. of Gourey

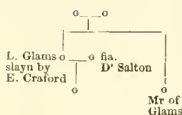
21. E. OF ROTHES, Andrew Lasley, of 60 years. His first wife a Hamilton; his second a Ruthven, aunte to this E. Gowry. His second sonne, Abbot of Lindorfe, married to one of th' E. of Orkney's daughters. His lands in Fife.

And. Lysley Er. Rothess 1 ux. fia. 2o L. Methfan
Abb. of Lindorfe D. Rot. Lendors

22. E. OF GLENCARNE, Jo. Cuninghame, of 36 years. His mother a Cambel of the E. of Argyle's house. His wife a Cambel of the Lard of Glen Norquhart's house. His livinge in Cunningham, Lennox, and elfewhere, in the West.

Jo. Cunnyngham Co. Glencarne 1 ux. fia. 2o Cambell

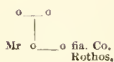
11. L. FORBOSE of that Ilke, of 65 yeares. His wife a Keith, one of the heires of Enderugie. The M^r of Forbose his heire, of 50, married first a Gordon, aunte to this E. Huntley, and after her divorcement he toke for second wife a Seton, wife to the old Justice Clark, this Justice Clarke's stepdame. The yonge M^r this man's sonne, of 26 yeares, a fervitour of the Duke of Parma.



12. L. OF GLAMMIS, N. Lyon, of xi yeares. His father slaine by the E. of Craforth's followers. His tuthor, the M^r of Glammis, his father's brother. His mother an Abernethie, daughter to the Lorde Salton. His livinge in Angus and Mernis.

13. L. DROMUND of that Ilke, of about 40 yeares. His mother sifter to the L. Ruthven, this yonge E. Gourie's grandfather. His first wife a Lindfie, daughter to the Knight of Egall. She bare him the M^r and all his barns. His second wife was before Countesse of Eglinton, mother to the late E. Eglinton, this man's father, and to the Lady Seton and the La Semple now livinge. His landes in Perthshire and Stratherne.

14. L. OLIPHANT of that Ilke, of 60 yeares. His mother sifter to the E. of Lennox, who after was Countesse of Sotherland, and mother to this E. of Sotherland. His wife a Hay, aunte to the E. of Erroll. His eldest sonne, the M^r of Oliphant, perished in the hands of the Dunkirkers, leaving behind him his Lady, daughter to this E. of Murton, and now Lady Hume, and a sonne and heire, to inherite the Barony of Oliphant after the old Lord's decease. His daughter married to the yonge Lard of Glenbarvy. His livinge in Perthshire and Strathern.



15. L. LINDSIE of that Ilke, of 68 yeares. His mother a Stuart, aunte to this E. Athol. His wife a Duglas, sifter to this E. of Murton. She bare him, before her death, the M^r of Lindfie, and two or three other children. His lands in Fife.

16. L. SINKLAR of that Ilke, of 61 yeares. His mother a Keith, greate aunte to this E. Marshall. She was before Lady Dromund, and

bare this L. Dromonde's father. His first wife, that bare him his three eldest sons, was sister to the L. Lindfay. His second, she was daughter to the L. Forbofe, by whom he hath also many children. His livinge in Fyfe.

17. L. SEMPLE of that Ilke, of about 18 yeares. His wife sister to the late E. Eglinton, this man's father, and to the Lady Seton. His father's bafe brother, Coronel Semple. His livinge farre west.

18. L. LEVISTON of that Ilke, of 59 yeares. His wife a Flemynge. His children many. The M^r of Levoston married a sister of th' E. of Athol's, and hath by her many barns. His livinge in Sterlingshire, and about Lithquo.

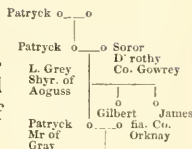
19. L. OGLEBY of that Ilke, of 48 yeares. His wife daughter to the L. Forbofe. His children many. The M^r of Ogleby, his sonne, married this E. Gowrey's sister. His laudes in Angus.

20. L. SANQHAR AND CRIGHTON, N. Crighton, of 20 yeares. His mother a Duglas, daughter to the Lard of Dumlanerike, who was after Countesse of Monteith, and mother to this E. Monteith. So he halfe brother to the said Erle. His lands in Nidifdale and Galloway.

21. L. SALTON, N. Abernethie, of 28 yeares. His mother a Keithe, aunt to this E. Marshall. His wife a Stuart, halfe sister to the E. of Athol. His sonne and heire of 12 yeares. His livinge in Straboggy, Buquhane, and much elfewhere.

22. L. ELPHINSTON of that Ilke, depends of the E. of Marre. His mother an Erkin of that house. His yeares about xxix. His livinge in Sterlingshire.

23. L. GREY of that Ilke, of 49 yeares. His wife sister to the old E. Gowrey. The M^r of Grey, his sonne and heire, of 29 yeares, married the E. of Orkney's daughter. He is by inheritance the Sheriff of Angufe.



24. L. BOIDE of that Ilke, of 60 odd yeares. His fecond fonne, Lard of Banneith. His daughters married, one to the late E. of Eglinton, this Erle's mother, another to the Lard of Luffe. His landes in Cuningham.

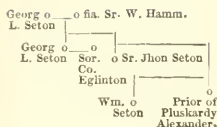
25. L. SOMERVAILLS of that Ilke, of 50 yeares. The M^r of Somervails, his fonne, of 26. His livinge in Clydefdale.

26. L. CATHCARTE of that Ilke, of 52 yeares. The M^r his fonne, of 27. His landes in Clydefdale.

27. L. ROSSE, N. Hauket, of 22 yeares. His mother a Semple, fifter to the L. Semple. His wife a Hamilton. His landes in Clydefdale.

28. L. CARLIEL, N. Duglas, of 30 yeares. His mother a Duglas, of the houfe of Parkeheade, in Clydefdale. His wife a Carliel, heretrix to the late L. Carlile of that Ilke. His livinge in Annandale.

29. L. SETON of that Ilke, of 30 yeares. His mother a Cuningham of the Lard of Caprintone's houfe. His wife a Montgomery, fifter to the late E. Eglinton and to the Lady Semple. His fonne and heire of 14 yeares. His livinge in Lowdian and Lithquo.



30. L. FLEMINGE of that Ilke, of 22 yeares. His wife a Greme, daughter to this Erle of Mountrofe. His livinge lies in Tuedale and upon Clyde. He is by inheritance L. Chamberlaine of Scotland.

31. L. YEASTER, N. Hay, of 30 yeares. His mother a Carre, fifter to th'old Larde of Fernherft. His wife a Maxwell, fifter to the L. Heris. His fonne and heire of x yeares. His livinge in Lowdian and Tiffedale.

32. L. BORTHWICKE of that Ilke, of 21 yeares. His mother a Scot, aunte to the Lard of Bocklughe. His wife fifter to the L. Yeafter. His livinge in Lowdian.

33. L. ABTREY AND LORD ABBOT OF DERE, N. Keith, of 60 yeares, uncle to the E. Marfhall. His wife a Lundy, farre northe. His eldest daughter married to a Hay, of great power in the North. His landes in Buqhane.

Indorsed.—The Nobillite in Scotland,
10th Aprill 1589.

XI.—THE NAMES OF SUCH SCOTTISH MEN AND WOOMEN AS RECEIVE PENSION OF THE KING OF SPAYNE. [1589 ?]
S. P. O.
(Vol. xliv.
No. 105.)

Francis Stewart Earle Bothwell,	-	-	300 d. ¹ monthly.
The Earle of Perth, as it is informed,	-	-	300 d.
M ^r George Carre,	-	-	100 d.
M ^r Andrew Clarke,	-	-	40 d.
Adam Cumming,	-	-	30 d.
S ^r James Lynfey, in futes for M ^r Curle of Eden- brough,	-	-	40 d.
His wife, Geils Moobray,	-	-	30 d.
Jane Moobray, her fifter,	-	-	30 d.
M ^{rs} Woodderfpon,	-	-	30 d.
M ^r Patrick Steward, nowheere with the E. Bothwell, received for an ayuda de Cofta,	-	-	100 d.
The Layrds of Farnyhurft, elder and yonger, received for an ayuda de Cofta,	-	-	200 d.
They are gone out of Spayne with intention to retourne agayne.			
Coronell Symple, living in Flanders,	-	-	100 d.
Coronell Paton, living in Flanders.	-	-	100 d.

Indorsed.—Scottifh Men and Women
Penfioners to the K. of Spayne.

¹ "D," Spanish ducats.

[1591.] XII.—NAMES OF “THE PAPISTS AND DISCONTENTED EARLS AND
S. P. O. LORDS OF SCOTLAND,” AND OF “THE PROTESTANTS AND WELL
(Vol. xlvii. AFFECTED TO THE COURSE OF ENGLAND.”
No. 130.)

The Papistes and difeontented Erles and Lordes:—

The D. of Lennox.	The L. Maxwell.	
The E. Huntley.	Cl. Hamilton.	
E. Montroffe.	L. Seton.	
E. Arroll.	L. Hume.	
E. Crawforth.	L. Gray.	
E. Bothwell.	L. Levyfton.	16
E. Catnes.		
E. Atholl.		
E. Sotherland.		
E. Murray.		

The Proteftantes and well affected to the courfe of England:—

The L. Chauncello ^r .	
The E. of Marre.	
The L. Jo. Hamilton.	
The E. of Anguiffh.	
The E. of Murton.	
The E. of Rothuffe.	
The E. Marshall.	
The M ^r of Glammes.	8.

Many Barons and Burough Townes very well affected in religion.

Indorsed.—Nobility of Scotland,
Papistes,
Proteftantes.

XIII.—THE PRESENT STATE OF THE NOBILITIE IN SCOTLAND,
THE FIRST OF JULY 1592.

1592.
July 1.
S. P. O.
(Vol. xlviii.
No. 62.)

ERLES.	SURNAYMES.	RELIGION.	THEIR AGES.
Duke of Lennox....	Stewart	Pro.....	Of xx yeris; his mother, a Frenche woman; married the third daughter of the late Earle of Gowry; she is dead; his houfe, Castle of Methwen.
Arrane	Hamilton.....	Pro.....	Of about 54 yeris; his mother, Douglas, daughter to th'erle of Mortoun, who was Erle before James the Regent; his houfe, Hamilton; and married this L. Glames' aunte.
Anguffe	Douglaffe	Doubtful..	Of 42 yeris; his mother, Grame, daughter to the Lard of Morphy; married th'eldest daughter of the L. Oliphant; his houfe, Tomtallon.
Huntlay.....	{ Seaton } { Gordon }	...Pa.	Of 33 yeris; his mother, daughter to Duke Hamilton; married the now Duke of Lenox fifter; his houfe, Strabogge.
Argile.....	Cambell.....	Younge....	Of 17 yeris; his mother, fifter to th'erle Marshall,

ERLES.	SURNAME.	RELIGION.	THEIR AGES.
			this Erle's father ; not yet married ; his house, Dynnve.
Atholl.....	Stewart.....	Protest.	Of xxxii yeres ; his mother, daughter to the L. Fleming ; married this Erle of Gowrie's sister ; his house, Dunkell.
Murray.....	Stewart.....	Young.	Of x yeres ; his mother, daughter to th'erle of Murray, Regent, by whom this Erle's father (slaine by Huntlay) had that erldome ; not married ; his house, Tarneway.
Crawford.....	Lyndfay	² Papist.....	Of 35 yeres ; his mother, daughter to th'erle Marshall ; married first the L. Drummond's daughter, and now th'erle of Atholl's sister ; his house, Fin-eaven.
Arrell.....	Hay.....	³ Papist.....	Of xxxi yeres ; his mother, Keith, daughter to th'erle Marshall ; married first the Regent Murraies daughter, next Atholl's sister, and now hath to wife Morton's daughter ; his house, Slamone.

ERLES.	SURNAYMES.	RELIGION.	THEIR AGES.
Murton.....	Douglaffè	Protest.	Of 66 yeres; his mother, Erkyn, daughter to the L. Erkin; married to the fister of th'erle of Rothus; his houfe, Dalkeithe.
Marshall.....	Keithè.....	Protest.	Of 38 yeres; his mother, daughter to th'erle of Arrell; married this L. Hume's fister; his houfe, Danotter.
Caffills.....	Kenedy	Young.....	Of 17 yeres; his mother, Lyon, aunt to this L. Glames, and who now is the L. Jo. Hamilton's wife; not married.
Eglinton.....	Montgomery...	Younge....	Of 8 yeres; his mother, Kenedy, daughter to the Lard of Barganie; unmarried.
Glencarne.....	Cuningham....	Protest.	Of 40 yeres; his mother, Gordon of Loughenvarre; married the Lard of Glenvrquhen's daughter, Gordon; his houfe, Glencarne.
Montroffè.....	Grame.....	Pap.	Of 49 yeres; his mother, daughter of the L. Fleming; married the L. Drummonde's fister, auld Montroffè in Anguffè.

ERLES.	SURNAYMES.	RELIGION.	THEIR AGES.
Menteithe	Graine	Younge....	Of 19 yeres; his mother, daughter to th'old Lard of Dumlanrig; married to Glenvrqhen's daughter; Kylbryde.
Roths.....	Leflee.....	Pro.....	Of 65 yeres; his mother, Somerville; married first the fifter of S ^r James Hamilton, and then the fifter of the L. Ruthen; Castle of Lefle.
Cathnes.....	Sinckler.....	Neut.....	Of 26 yeres; his mother, Hebburne, fifter to Bothwell that died in Denmark, married this Huntlaies fifter, Tnugeberg (? bey).
Sutherland.....	Gordon.....	Neutr.....	Of 36 yeres; his mother, fifter to the Regent, Erle of Lenox; married the Earle of Huntlaie's fifter, this Erle's aunt; his house, Dunrowyn.
Bothwell.....	Stewart.....	Pro.....	Of 30 yeres; his mother, Hebburne, fifter to the late Erle Bothwell; married the fifter of Archbald Erle of Anguslie; he standes now foralted; Crighton.
Buchane.....	Douglas.....	Younge....	Of xi yeres; his mother,

ERLES.	SURNAMES.	RELIGION.	THEIR AGES.
			Stewart, heritrix of Buchane; unmarried. ¹
Marre.....	Erfkin.....	Protest.....	Of 31 yeres; his mother, Murray, sifter to the Lard of Tullybarden; a wedower; his houfe, Allowaye.
Orkney.....	Stewart.....	Neutr.....	Of 63 yeres; bafe fonne of K. James the Fift; his mother, Elphingfton; married to th'erle of Caffell's daughter.
Gowry.....	Ruthuen.....	Younge....	Of 15 yeres; his mother, sifter to unqle L. Methwen; unmarried; Ruthuen.

LORDS OR BARONS.

LORDS.	SURNAMES.	RELIGION.	THEIR AGES.
Lyndfay.....	Lyndfay.....	Prot.....	Of 38 yeres; his mother, sifter to the Lard of Loughleaven; married th'erle of Rothoufe daughter; his houfe, Byers.
Seaton.....	Seaton.....	Pa.....	Of 40 yeres; his mother, daughter to Sr W ^m Hamilton; his wife is Montgomery, th'erle's ante; his houfe, Seaton.

¹ In pages 335, 336, I find a few corrections were overlooked, viz. Dunotter, Drumlanrig, Glenurquhey, Tungsby, Dunrobyn, forfalded.

LORDS.	SURNAMES.	RELIGION.	THEIR AGES.
Borthwick.....	Borth.....	Prot.....	Of 22 yeres ; his mother, daughter of Buccleughe ; his wife, the L. Yefter's daughter ; Borthick.
Yefter.....	Haye.....	Prot.....	Of 28 yeres ; his mother, Carr of Phernihert ; his wife, daughter of the L. of Newbottle ; Neidpath.
Levington.....	Leving.....	Pa..... ⁶	Of 61 yeres ; his mother, daughter of vmqhile Erle of Morton ; his wife, the L. Fleming's fister ; Calendarre.
Elphinston.....	Elp.....	Neut.	Of 63 yeres ; his mother, Erfkyn ; his wife, the daughter of S ^r Jo. Drummond ; Elphinston.
Boyde.....	Boyde.....	Pro.....	Of 46 yeres ; his mother, Collquhen ; his wife, the Sherif of Aire's daughter ; Kilmarnok.
Sempell.....	Sympill.....	Pro.....	Of 29 yeres ; his mother, Preston ; his wife, daughter of th'erle of Eglinton ; Sempell.
Roffe.....	Ros.....	Pro.....	Of 30 yeres ; his mother, the L. Sempill's daughter ;

LORDS.	SURNAMES.	RELIGION.	THEIR AGES.
			his wife is Gawen Hamilton's daughter.
Ochiltre.....	Stewart.....	Pr.....	Of 32 yeres; his mother, fifter to the L. Methuen; his wife, Kenedy, the daughter of the Lard of Blawquhen; Ochiltre.
Cathcart.....	Cathcart.....	Pr.....	Of 55 yeres; his mother, Simpill; his wife, Wallace, the daughter of the Lard of Cragy-Wallace; Cathcart.
Maxwell.....	Maxw.....	Pa..... ⁷	Of 41 yeres; his mother, daughter to th'erle of Mor-ton that preceded the Re-gent; his wife, Douglasse, fifter to th'erle of Anguffe.
Harris.....	Maxwell.....	Pa..... ⁸	Of 37 yeres; his mother, Harris, by whom he had the Lordship; his wife is the fifter of Newbottle; his houfe, Tiragles.
Sanquhare.....	Crichton.....	Pa..... ⁹	Of 24 yeres; his mother, daughter of Drumlang-rig; unmarried; his houfe, Sanquhar.
Sommervele.....	Somerville.....	Prot.....	Of 45 yeres; his mother, fifter to S ^r James Hamil-

LORDS.	SURNAMES.	RELIGION.	THEIR AGES.
			ton; his wife, fifter to the L. Seaton; Carnweth.
Drummond.....	Drummond....	Pr.....	Of 41 yeres; his mother, daughter to the L. Ruthuen; his wife, Lyndfay, daughter of the Lard of Edzell; Drummond.
Oliphant.....	Oliphant.....	Prot.....	Of 65 yeres; his mother, Sandelandes; his wife is Arrell's fifter; Dippline.
Gray.....	Gray.....	¹⁰ Pap.....	Of 54 yeres; his mother, the L. Ogilvie's daughter; his wife, the L. Ruthen's fifter; Fowles.
Glames.....	Lyon.....	Younge....	Of 17 yeres; his mother, fifter to the L. Salton; unmarried.
Ogilvy.....	Ogilvy.....	¹¹ Pap.....	Of 51 yeres; his mother, Cambell of Caddell; his wife, the L. Forbessie's daughter; no caffle but the B. of Brichen's houfe.
Hume.....	Hume.....	Suspect....	Of 27 yeres; his mother, the L. Graie's daughter; his wife, th'erle of Morton's daughter; Hume.

LORDS.	SURNAMES.	RELIGION.	THEIR AGES.
Fleming.....	Flem.....	Pa..... ¹²	Of 25 yeres ; his mother, daughter of the M ^r of Roffe ; his wife, th'erle of Montroffe's daughter ; Bigger.
Inuermethe.....	Stewart.....	Pr.....	Of 30 yeres ; his mother, the L. Ogilvie's daughter ; his wife, Lyndfay the Lard of Edzell's daughter ; Reidcastle.
Forbes.....	Forbaffe.....	Pro.....	Of 75 yeres ; his mother, Lundie ; his wife, Keithie.
Salton.....	Abernethy.....	Younge....	Of 14 yeres ; his mother, Atholl's fifter, this Erles aunt ; Salton.
Lovatt.....	Frafir.....	Prot.....	Of 23 yeres ; his mother, Stewart, aunt to Atholl ; his wife, the Lard of Mackenze's daughter.
Sinekler.....	Sinekler.....	Pr.....	Of 65 yeres ; his mother, Oliphant ; his wife, the L. Forbes' daughter ; Ravinscraige.
Torphecchin.....	Sandelandes...	Younge....	Of 18 yeres ; his mother, daughter of the L. Roffe ; his house, Calder or Torphechen.

LORDS.	SURNAMES.	RELIGION.	THEIR AGES.
Thirleston.....	Mateland.....	Prot.....	Of 48 yeres ; married the L. Fleming's aunt ; a new house in Lauther or Lethington.

HOWSES DECAIED.

LORDS.	SURNAMES.	
Methwen.....	Stewart.....	Decaied by want of heires, and comming to the K's handes, he hath disponit it to the Duke.
Carlile.....	Carlile.....	The male heires are decaied. There is a daughter of the Lord Carlile's married to James Douglas of the Parkhead, who hath the lyving, but not the honors.

LORDS OR BARONS, CREATED OF LANDES APPERTAINING TO BUSSHOPRICKES AND ABACIES.

LORDS.	SURNAMES.	RELIGION.	AGES.
Altrie.....	Keith.....	Prot.....	Of 63 yeres ; his mother, Keith ; his wife, Laurefton ; this lordship is founded on the Abbott of Dere.
Newbottle.....	Ker.....	Pro.....	Of 39 yeres ; his mother, th'erle of Rothe's fister ;

LORDS.	SURNAMES.	RELIGION.	THEIR AGES.
			his wife, Maxwell, fifter to this L. Harris. This lordship is founded on the Abbacie of Newbottle; his houfe, Morphele or Prefton Grange.
Urquhard.....	Seaton.....	Pa.....	Of 35 yeres; the L. Seaton's brother; his wife, the L. Drummond's daughter; founded on the Priory of Plufeardy.
Spinay.....	Lyndfay.....	Prot.....	Of 28 yeres; th'erle of Crawfurde's ³⁴ brother; his wife, Lyon, the L. Glames daughter. This is founded on the Bufshoprick of Murray; his houfe is Spinay; but Huntlay is heritable Conftable in that houfe.

Indorsed by Lord Burghley.—A Cataloge of the Nobilete in Scotland.

XIV.—THE NAMES AND TITLES OF ERLS AND LORDS OF SCOTLAND, [1602.]
 WITH THE COONTRIS WHEREIN THEY LIVE, BEGINNING IN S. P. O.
 THE NORTH, AND SO SOUTHWARD.—(IN THE HANDWRITING OF (Vol. lxxix.
 HENRY LOK.) No. 66.)

In the Ifs of Orkney:—

1. Patrick Erle of Orkney, foone to Robert Stuart, bafe brother to
 Mary late Qwen of Scott, by Kennedy, dawghter of

Gilbert, fuintims Erle of Caffils, and father to the present Erle of Caffils. This Patrik, now Erle, is married to Liuefton, fifter to Alex^r now Lord Liuefton, widowe to S^r Lewes Bellanden, late Juftis Clark, a gret counfeler to the King; he hath yet no children.

In Catnes:—

2. Georg Erle of Catnes, of furname Sinclere; he married Gorden, fifter to Georg now Marqwes of Huntley, and by her hath children.

In Sotherland:—

3. John Erle of Sotherland, a Gorden by furname, foon of John by Gorden, diuorced wife of James Heborn, foomtims Erle Bothwel and Duk of the Ifles, and married to the late Qwen of Scots, who died in Denmark. This Erle is married to Elfefton, dafter¹ to the M^r of Elfefton, yet childles.

In Strabogi-land, in Sherifdom of Aberden:—

4. Georg Erle Huntly, an adoptiue Gorden, but indede defended of one S^r Alexander Seaton. He married Henriot Stuard, fifter to the Duk of Lenox, and hath foons and dafters.

In Bowqhan:—

5. Erle of Bowqhan, Dowglas by firname, by unmarried.

6. Francis Hey, Erle of Aral, Conftable of Scotland; his firft wife was Stuard, dafter to James Erle of Mory, and in his fecond mariadg to Stuard, dawghter to John Erle of Athal, and by theas no child; fins married Dowglas, dafter to William Erle Morton, fountims Lord of Lowghleuen, and by hir hath foons and dafters.

In Morey:—

7. James Erle Morey, a Stuard, foon to James, murdered by Huntly;

¹ “Dafter,” daughter, probably written as a contraction. Lok’s orthography, however, in this paper, is very peculiar.

his mother, Stuard, eldest dafter to Rege[nt] Morey, by Agnes Keth, a Erle Martial's dafter; this Erle unmarried.

In the Mearns:—

8. Erle Marfial, a Keth by furname; first married to this Lord Hewm's sifter, and by hir had his children; and fins he married this Lord Oglebe's dafter.

In Angwith:—

9. The Erle of Crawford, John Lindfey by furname, married to Stuard, sifter to the late Erle of Athal, by whom he hath foons and dafters.

10. The Erle of Mowntros, John Gream; married Dromownt, dafter to David late Lord Dromont, and sifter to the present Lord, by whom he hath foons and one dafter.

In Athal:—

11. John Stuard Erle of Athal, lately Lord of Indermeth, married the widoe of John late Earl of Athal, being sifter to the late flain Erle of Gorey, by whom he hath children.

In Fife:—

12. Andro Erle of Rothés; Leflye by furname; first married to Hambelton, dafter to one Sir James Hambilton, by whom he had 8 children; fins married Dure [Durie], dafter to the Lord of Dure, by whome alfo he hath children.

In Pierth:—

13. James [John] Erle of Gorey; Ruthen by furname; his mother, the Lord Mefen's (a Stuard) dafter, of the hows of Ogletre; he was flain, being unmarried and childles.

In Argile:—

14. Archibald Campbel, Erle of Argile, his mother was a Stuard,

Lord St Comb's dafter; he married Dowglas, dafter to the present Erle of Morton, and hath by hir foons and dafters.

In Lenox:—

15. The Duk of Lenox, a Stuart; his mother, D'Aubeni, in Frans; himself first married the late Erle of Gori's sifter, and fins the Sherif of Eir's dafter, a Campbel by name, and hath children.

In Sterlingshir:—

16. John Erle of Mar; Erkin by firname; first married to Dromont, dafter to David Lord Dromont, and by hir hath foons and dafters; fins married the Duk of Lenox sifter, a Stuard.

In Mownteth:—

17. Erle of Monteth, a Greme by furname; yong; unmarried.

In Cloidfdal:—

18. John Hambelton, now Marqwes of Hambelton and Erle of Aran, married to Lion, dafter to Lord Lion, and widow to the Erle Cafels, defefed, and by hir hath children.

In Lodian:—

19. William Erle of Morton, a Dowglas, funtins Lord of Lowgh-leuen; married to Leshly, dafter to the Erle of Rothos, and by hir hath many foons and dafters.

20. William Dowglas, Erle of Angwifch, [Augus] married to Olephant, dafter to Larans late Lord Olephant by whom he hath foons and dafters.

21. Francis Erle of Bothwel, a Stuard by firname, foon to John Command[at]er of Coldingham, bafe foon to James the 5, by Jane Heborn, dafter and heir of Heborn Erle of Bothwel married to the Scots Qwen, and died in Denmark. This Bothwel married Margaret Dowglas, dafter

to Daud Erle of Angwifh, defeafed, and fifter to the Erle banifht in England; ſhe was firſt widow to Sir Walter Scot, and by him had the preſent Lord of Baclowgh, and by Francis Erle of Bothwel many foons.

In Coningham:—

22. Alexander Erle of Glankern, by furnam Coningham; he married Campbel, dafter to Coline Cambel of Glenvrquha, and by hir foons and dafters.

23. Erle of Eglinton, by furname Mowntgomery, foon of the laſt Earl, by Kenety, dafter to the Lard of Barganies; is as yet unmarried.

In Carak:—

24. Kennedy, Erle of Cafels, married Jane Fleming, dafter of late Lord Fleming, and widowe to John Matelin, late Chanfeler; by hir hath no children.

In Lodian:—

25. Lord Seton, Erle, newly created Erle of Winton; his mother, a , his wife, a , hath fundry children.

THE LORDS.

1. Hugh Froifel, Lord Louet, married firſt Mackeny, dafter of Mackeny of Kantire, and by hir had children; and fins married Stuard, dafter to James [Earl of] Morey, Regent.

2. John Lord Forbes, married George Erle of Huntly's dafter, and by hir had foons, now Jefuits and Capufians in Flanders; after married Seton's dafter, Lord of Touch, wedow of Sir John Balendin knight; and by hir hath foons and dafters.

3. James Lord Ogelbe, married Forbes, dafter to the Lord Forbes, and hath by hir foons and dafters.

4. James Lion, Lord Glames, married Agnes Morey, dafter to the Lord of Tillibarn, and hath by hir fons and dafters.

5. The Lord of Spiney, a Lindfey, brother of Erle Crawford, married to the widow of the banifhed Earl of Angwifh, Archibald.

6. The Lord Gray, married Ruthen, fifter to the beheded Erle of Gorey, caled William, and by hir hath foons and dafters.

7. Lord Oliphant, in captivity; married Dowglas, dafter to William Erle of Morton, and by hir hath foons and dafters, who fins is married to Lord Hume; and the fupposed Erle now liuing is unmarried, and his foon.

8. Patrick Lord Dromont, married Lindfey, dafter to the Lerd of Edzel, and by hir hath foons and dafters, wherof one married to Seton, Lord Prier of Phufkardy, Prefedent of the Cowmfel.

9. Alexander Lord Elphefton, married Dromont, dafter to one Sir John Dromont knight, and by hir hath foons and dafters.

10. Alexander Lord Luefton, married Elizabeth Hey, dafter to Andro Erle of Arol, and by hir hath foons and dafters.

11. Robert Lord Boid; yong; not married.

12. James Lord Fleming, married Gream, dafter to John Erle of Mowntros, and by hir hath foons and dafters.

13. Lord Bort[hw]jik; is yong, and not married.

14. Hey, Lord Yester, married Ker, dafter to Mark Lerd of Newbottel, and by hir hath foons and dafters.

15. James Lord Lindfey, married Lefhly, dafter to Andro Erle of Rothos, and by hir hath foons and dafters.

16. Alexander Lord Hume, married Dowglas, dafter to William Erle of Morton, fupposed widoe of the M^r of Olephant now in captiunity, by whom she bare this Lord; by Hume no children.

17. Hewgh Lord Someruil.

18. The Lord Ros of Halkheid; yong; unmarried.

19. Robert Lord Simpel; unmarried.

20. Alen Lord of Cathcart, married Kennety, dafter to the Lerd of Bargany, and by hir hath children.

21. Andro Stuart Lord Ogletre, married Kennety, dafter to the Lerd of Blawquhu, and by hir hath children.

22. John Lord Heris, foon to Sir John Maxwel of Terregliff knight, married Gorden, dafter to the Lerd of Lowghenuar, and by hir hath foons and dafters.

23. John Lord Maxwel, married Hamblton, dafter to John Lord Marqwes of Hamblton, who was flain by Johnfton, and left foons and dafters, wherof the eldefst now Lord, a child.

24. Abernethy Lord Salton; yong and unmarried.

25. Lord Sancher, a Crighton by firname; unmarried.

26. Andro Ker, Lord of Roxborg; his wife, a Metelin, dafter to the Secretary to the late Qwen Mary of Scotland; his fifter married to the Lerd of Baclowgh.

Indorsed.—Alliances of Scotland.

XV.—A CATALOGUE OF THE SCOTTIS NOBILITIE AND OFFICIERS OF THE ESTAT. BY JOHN COLVILLE.¹

[1602.] THAIR be one Due beyid the Kings childring, vz. :—
S. P. O. Le Due de Lenoix, nommé Efine Steuard: Proteftant, de bon naturel,
(Vol. lxvi. peu d'aétion.
No. 119)

Il y a des Marquifes deux, vz. :—
Le Marquis de Kineill, nommé Lord Jean Hammliton, autrefois appelle le me Lord Hammliton, ou my Lord Arbroth: Proteftant, et de peu d'action: Son frere ainé, le Comte d'Arran, eft lunatique, comme estoient tous fes autres freres.
Le Marquifs de Huntley, autrefois dit my Lord Huntley: Son furnom eft Gordon: Catholique, et de grand aétion, bien aymé du Roy.

Of Erles thair be about 22 :—

The Erll of Orknay, callit Herry Steuart: Proteftant, of finall action.
The Erll of Sudderland, callit Gordon: Catholique, of finall aétion.
The Erll of Kaitnes, callit Sinklar, half brother to Bothnell of the mother's fyid: Catholique, a violent bloody man.
The Erll of Murray, callit Steuart: a Proteftant, of gret expectation, and young.

¹ This list has no date, but the reference to "Gourie's late treason," in August 1600, shows that it was subsequent to that date, but previous to the accession of King James to the Crown of England, in March 1603, if not to February 1602, when Edward Bruce of Kinloss was raised to the Peerage as Lord Bruce of Kinloss. In 1603 Sir David Murray had been succeeded as Comptroller by Peter Rollock, Bishop of Dunkeld.

The Erll of Arroll, callit Hay : Catholique, a man of gret aëtion, and estemit verey juft and honorabill.

The Erll of Craufurd, callit Lyndsay : Catholique, of gret aëtion.

The Erll of Goureis Hous, callit Ruthven, is gone, be his lait trefon.

The Erll of Montrofs, callit Graham : Proteftant, of gret aëtion.

The Erll of Menteth, callit Graham : Proteftant, a child.

The Erll of Mar, callit Elkyn : Proteftant, the gretest aëtor of tham, and most welcum to King, and Captane of the Castell of Ediuburg, and kepar of the Princee.

The Erll of Lythgo, callit Leviftoun, of lait Lord Leviftoun : estemit to be Catholique, no aëtor, bot a paeceable nobill man, and wealthy.

The Erll of Glenkarn, callit Cunygham : Proteftant, no aëtor.

The Erll of Eglinton, callit Montgomrie : Proteftant, a child of no expectation.

The Erll of Caffils, callit Kennedy : Proteftant, of no aëtion.

The Erll Marfehall, callit Keth : Proteftant, of litill aëtion.

The Erll of Angufs, callit Douglafs : Catholique, of litill aëtion.

The Erll Morton, callit Douglas : Proteftant, aged, and remanit at home.

The Erll of Ergyll, callit Campbell : Proteftant, of gret aëtion and mieht.

The Erll of Vintoun, callit Setoun, laitlie callit Lord Setonn.

The Erll Bothuell, callit Steuart, laitlie decayit : Catholique, and nou is in Spane.

The Erll Rothefs, callit Leflie : Proteftant, aget, and remanit at home.

The Erll Atholl, callit Steuart : Proteftant, of litill aëtion.

The Erll Buchan, callit Douglafs, laitlie decayit.

Of Lordis be about 31 :—

The Lord Lovet, callit Frafer : Proteftant, of finall aëtion.

The Lord Saltoun, callit Abirnethy : Proteftant, of no aëtion.

The Lord Forbefs, callit Forbefs : Proteftant, of litill aëtion.

The Lord Ogilby, callit Ogilby : Catholique, of litill aëtion.

The Lord Glammes, callit Lyon : Proteftant, of litill aëtion.

- The Lord Gray, callit Gray : Catholique, of litill aëtion. Bot the young Lord Gray, callit the Mafter of Gray, a man of gret aëtion, and Catholique.
- The Lord Innermeth, callit Steuart : Proteftant, a child.
- The Lord Drommond, callit Drommond : Catholique, a young nobill-man of gret expectation, now in Italy.
- The Lord Oliphant, callit Oliphant : Catholique, of good expectation.
- The Lord Sempill, callit Sempill : Catholique, ane aëtor.
- The Lord Elphifton, callit Elphifton : Catholique, gret aëtor.
- The Lord Lyndfay, callit Lyndfay : Proteftant, of gret expectation.
- The Lord Sinkler, callit Sinkler : Proteftant, of no gret expectation.
- The Lord Boyid, callit Boyid : Catholique, no aëtor.
- The Lord Cathcart, callit Cathcart : Proteftant, no aëtor.
- The Lord Ochiltry, callit Steuart : Proteftant, a gret aëtor.
- The Lord Symmervall, callit Symmervail : Proteftant, that hes fald all.
- The Lord Roxbrough, callit Ker : Proteftant, of gret aëtion. He was laity callit Lard of Ceffurd.
- The Lord Loudoun, callit Campbell : Proteftant, a gret aëtor; laity callit the Schirref of Air.
- The Lord Yefter, callit Hay : Proteftant, of no accompt.
- The Lord Rofs, callit Rofs : Proteftant, a child.
- The Lord Borthik, callit Borthik : a child, vhoſs father hes fald all.
- The Lord Home, callit Home : Catholique, a gret aëtor.
- The Lord Maxuell, callit Maxuell : Catholique, gret aëtor.
- The Lord Herifs, callit Maxuell : Catholique, a gret aëtor.
- The Lord Sancher, callit Crichtoun : Catholique, and a gret traoueller abroad.
- The Lordis of Colville, Lyill, Cairlile, Soules, Dirlton, be laity decayit.
- The Lord of the Iles, callit Makrenold : ane Irifch, and barbar.
- The Lord of Kyntyir, callit Makoneill : Irifch, and barbar.
- The Lord of the Lewis, callit Makgloyid : Irifch, and barbar.
- The Lord of Makkengie, callit Makkengie : Irifch; a Proteftant, and verey politique.
- The Lord of Makklen, callit Makklen : Irifch, a child, of good expectation.

The Lord of Thirlstun, callit Mettlen : a child, and neu Lordschip acquirit be the lait Chancillor Metteland.

The Lord of Spynie, callit Lyndsfay, brother to the Erl Craufurd : Protestant ; ane actor, and ane neu Lord.

Officiars of Eitat :—

The Erl of Montros, Chancillor.

Sir Da. Murray (a brother of Bauard), Comptroller.

Sir George Home (a mean gentill man, of the Hous of Manderstoun), Thesaurer.

The Erl of Ergyill, Gret Justice.

The Erl of Arrol, Gret Constable.

The Erl Marfchall, Gret Marfchall.

The Lord Orchart, a brother of the Erl Vintou's, First President.

Sir Ja. Elphinston, a brother of the Lord Elphinston's, First Secretar.

Mr Tho. Hammilton of Preitfeld, Advocat.

Mr Jo. Skeyn, Clerk of the Register.

The Lard of Ormston, Justice Clerk.

Mr Ro. Douglas, Provest of Glenklouden, Collector.

The Lord of Neubottill, Maister of Requestes.

Mr Peter Young, Elemofynar.

Mr Foular, Maister of Ceremoneis.

Of neu erected Barons or Lordes, be verteu of dissolution of Benefices, and Annexation tharof to the Croun, be about 10, viz. :—

The Abbacy of Arbroth, erected in a temporall Lordschip, to the Marquiffe of Kinneill.

The Priory of Plufkardy, nou callit the Lordschip of Orchart, to the First President.

The Abbacy of Dear, to Mr Ro. Keth.

The Abbacy of Neubottill, to Mr Marc Ker.

The Abbacy of Kinlofs, to Mr Eduard Bruce.

The Abbaceis of Drybrugh and Cambuskynneth, to the Erl of Mar.

The Abbacy of Paslay, to the Lord Claud Hammilton.

The Abbacy of Culrofs, to Jo. Colville of Kinneddre.

The Priorat of Elcho, to the Lard of Vemefs.

The Abbacy of Lendors, to Lellie, cadet of the Erl of Rothefs.

Item, The Seflion of Scotland (vfk is thair as the term is in England, or the Court of Parliament in France), and from vfk is no appellation bot to the High Parliament, vhar the King and thre Eftats of the Realm ar affembled. It is compofed of nyne Ecclefiastiques, and aucht Secular Lordis Ordinars, and of fevin more Extraordinars, vharof four muft be of the Clergie.

Item, The eftat of Bifchops, Abbots, Prioures, etc. is altogidder decayit in Scotland; for the temporall lands be ether annexit to the Croun, or emphiotiftit to the Nobilite and Gentilmen; lyik as all the tithes, for the moft part, be for finall pryces, fet in long affedations or laffe to Secular perfons.

Indorsed.—To Mafter Karlton. A
note of the Sco[ttis]ch Noble men,
by Colville.

COLVILLE'S PALINODE:

EDINBURGH, 1600.

THE
PALINOD

OF IOHN COLVILL,

WHEREIN HE DOTH PE-

nitently recant his former proud of-
*fences, specially that treasonable dis-
course latelie made by him
against*

The vndoubted and indeniable title
of his dread Soueraigne Lord, King

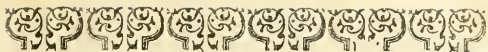
JAMES the first, vnto the
crowne of England,
after decease of
her Maiesty
present.



EDINBURGH

Printed by Robert Charteris.

1600.



TO THE READER.

BEhold heere (gentle Reader) a strange spectacle of a man tormented with the rack of his owne conscience, who as he was not affrayed to spew out of his knowledg and wilfullie, the gall and venome of a malicious heart, against his sacred Prince, of whom he had in most bountifull manner receiued manie Princelie favors, so now doth he not stick resolutelie to proclaime before the heavens and the earth, that he is forced to eat up that same filthie vomit, and to speak more bitterlie a thousand fold against himself, then anie man else could: and so much the more, as he was more privie to the faults, and anguishes of his owne soule, then any others could be. The worke I haue published as it came to my hands, without adding anything thereto, or diminishing ought therfrom, or altering any part thereof: presuming that the same should neither be offensiu to his Maiestie, for whose privat satisfaction it was first penned, or displeasing to M. Iohn Coluill the authour thereof: whom thou mayest assure thyself vpon the credite both of honorable and honest persons to haue purposelie vwritten and signed the same with his owne hand & most humblie vpon his knees, in the presence of the Erles of Argyle & Craufurd to haue deliuered it to the L. Archbishop of Glasgou, his Maiest. Ambassadour in France, most earnestly craving, that his Lordship (without any intercession for him) would only vouchsafe to present it to his Maiesties view, not in any hope that in reason he could conceiue of any favour or pardon from his highnesse thereby but rather to disburthen his owne fraughted conscience, pressed down with a waight of sorrow, heavier than the mountain Aethna. Which reasonable petition what stonie heart could denie to him, who seemes to think no shame to be a sufficient reuenge taken of himself, who with so

To the Reader.

high a hand, had reuyled the annointed of the Lord & doth now by this, as with a loud trumpet proclaime to all subiects,

Discite Iustitiam moniti, &c.

And trulie (good Reader) notwithstanding hypocrisie is of all finnes the moste close and secrete, and most hardlie remoued, and that (as he doth confesse of him self) that he hath had a most subtile and vndiscernable vaile of it: yet remember the common saying, that the man runnes far who neuer returnes, and that in charity we are to conceyue and hope his repentance to be vnfained, which we may boldly and confidently affirme, if to this good beginning he shall add of his feruent zeale, to beare testimonie to the truth, a p'aine and perfite discouerie of all manner of plots & treacheries, intended against the Kings Maiesty, by himself or others to his knowledge, which the great King of Kings would neuer haue to be concealed: & lykewise of all manner of persons subiects or aliens, who hath either of malice to his Maiesty, or loue to him self, bene contriuers, entysers, prouokers, counsellers, aduers, or assisters to any such mischeuous enterprises, as directly or indiretly could subuert, or anie wise harme his Maistesies Royall person, crown, title, honour, state, or dignity, and by consequence might draw with them the confusion and ruine both of the Kirk and Common weale. To which, no doubt, all his honest friends will earne'stly incite him, and his conscience (if it be sincere) will prick him, and for which all good and religious persons will highly commend him, seing heerby God shall be glorified, his Maiesties safetie and honour continued, his countrie preserued, and the Kirk fully satisfied in his barty conuersion and repentance,

Farewell. A.C.

THE PALINOD

OF IOHN COLVILL.

Wherin he doth penitentlie recant his former proud
offences, specially that treasonable discourse lately made

by him, against the vndoubted, & indenyable
title of his dread soueraigne Lord, King

I A M E S the sixt, vnto the crown
of England, after decease of
her Maiestie present.



I F my onelie name mentioned in the inscription of this my recantation shal make my discourse odious, I can not meruell, seing I am becum for my treasonable naughtinesse lothsome and odious to my selfe, my conscience not only standing up as a thousand witnesses against mee, testifying the heynousnesse of my transgression, but also furnishing within my self, against myself, all other necessarie members of a lawfull court to condemne mee, shee being my actor, assise, Iudge, dempster and burreau, ieaning and tormenting me with vspeakable terrors, whereof I neuer could finde rest or quietnesse, till God of his infinite mercie knowing my weaknesse and imbecillitie to be such, as without help I could neuer ryse, did send vnto mee a Nathan, whereas I lay lethargicke in my former desperation, without sense or feeling of the dangerous estate I

THE PALINOD

was into, who letting mee see and feell the deepe & dolour of my Aposteme (which of before as a blinde and leprous person I did neither see nor feele) incontinent I waxed extaticke and astonished, as if without my knowledge I had found a snake hid in my bosome not knowing the meanes how to be ridd thereof. So remaining some dayes in this inquietude the foresaid Nathan, or rather Elisæus appointed by God to cure my leprosie, finding mee in this perplexitie, began to comfort mee in manner following: saying, My friend, I haue let you see and feele an hid & horrible Aposteme, the dolour whereof, if you haue an foule, must needs torment you in pitifull manner. Now to ease you of this dolour, I will minister vnto you an vnexpected medecine, for the inexpected wound that I haue opened vp vnto you: letting you vnderstand that as your proud enormity is three-fold, so must you make a threefold satisfaction: one to God whome against your conscience, as you your selfe confesse, you have offended, in offending his annointed your Lord and Soueraigne, and in this point I remit you to your owne priuate meditation, wishing you to beware of hypocrisie, as you would incurre or escape eternall damnation. Another satisfaction is due to your Prince, wherein you cannot better declare your vnfeined repentance, than to blesse with the same tongue that hes blasphemed: and with the same hand that did write against the veritie, to publish your owne lewdnes and vnloyaltie, to his Maie-
sties

OF IOHN COLVILL.

ties honour, & your owne turpitude. And this forme of doing by all appearance shal also satisfie the third partie whome you haue exasperate, to wit, all good subiectes scandalized by your presumptuous and arrogant misbehaviour: the rather when as they shal see your repentance voluntare, and not constrained & your self free and no prisoner. The Oliue branche was not more welcome to Noah, nor to the creple, *Tolle grabatum tuum & ambula*, then this advyse was vnto mee, for fulfilling whereof my verie secreat teares, (requiring neither vaunting nor witnes, *Ille dolet verè qui sine teste dolet*) and this my publict recantation shal beare testimony to the world. In which recantation, I will not go about to declare what pretended necessities may moue men vnto: but setting aside all excuses, I acknowledge in humilitie that no such occasiõ can be offered by a Prince, as can make a good subiect declyne, as I haue done. For the Prince is the immediat Lord of our bodies, and of all our worldlie fortunes, hauing power to dispoñe thereupon at his pleasure, as Saint Ambrose doth confes, Epist. 33 *ad Marcellinam sororem*. Whereof Samuel in the original institution of a King hes left to all posterities an indenyable testimony: So Princes beeing as it were Gods of the earth, they are not answerable to earthly men, bot to the supreme Godhead allanerlie: and we their Vassals, doe as they list to vs, can have no warrant to go further, nor Samuel did go, viz. to pray for them till God forbid: and if he should forbid, yet neuer

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uer to loofe our tongue, nor lift our hart nor hand, or animat the people againft them, more nor Samuel & Daudid the annointed fucceffor did againft Saul, and Elias againft Achab. And to this effect are pronounced all thofe golden fentences, *Omnis anima potestatibus superioribus fubdita fit. Reddite Cæfari quod Cæfaris est. Obedite Principibus etiam difcolis.* Together with the louable example of fome Prophetes that did pray for the felicity of infidell Princes, obeying and exhorting others to obey them. I am not then to extenuat, but to aggrauat my offences, accusing, not excufing my felf: And in one word, Christian Reader (vnto whole hands, this Recantation witnes of my vnworthines, may come) I pray thee read it with patience & pitie, and iudge with thy felfe, if I haue not iuft occafion to lament my eftate, fince neither at God, nor my Princes hands I can look for anie thing, but iuft deferued punition, both heere and hence, except of grace they haue pitie on mee. Take mee for an example of vn-happines, and as a Mirrour wherein thou may fee what is deforme and vnfeemlie to them that woulde remain in honeft reputation, and howe eafilie it may be loft, that is moft difficill to be found. Of one thing I may affure thee (as is before faid) that my behavior cannot feeme half fo detestable to thee, as it is to my-felf, whereof thou may in thy owne perfon haue experience, in cace (which God forbid) thou fall as I haue done. Wherefore I pray Almightye God of his mercie that as my aétions haue bene offenfue to manie,
fo

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fo my repentance may not only be acceptabil to manie, but also a caveat for all to flee fuch dangerous & difloyall courfes, wherein skarce one of a thoufand cā escape. That fame Almighty God graunt vnto thee a better minde and better fortune, and vnto mee a better anfwere, and end, nor my former lyfe hes deferred.

AS the wounded Vrfe or wyldgoat seeking his Origane, doth with his filthie fume and breath infect all other hearbes: and as the Wafpe of good and bad flowrs gathereth no thing but poifon: Euen fo a man wounded with malice and curiofitie, doth vitiat and wrefte whatfoeuer fubiect he taketh in hand, delyting more to defend lies nor trueth, improbabilities nor probabilities, paradoxes & shadowes in ftead of Orthodoxe and fubftance: and herevpon hes proceeded fo manie idle and abfurde opinions, fume impugning the fnow to be white, or the Sunne hote, fome praifing follie, Cupid, and manie other far more ridiculous toyes, yea fome prefuming to deny Gods providence and God him felfe. Lyke as out of this fame puddle of malice & curiofitie, did flow my late inuectiue againft the King my foueraignes iufte title to the crowne of England, wherein by Elenches, and by no good arguments, by fophiftrie, and no formal Syllogifmes, I labour, to my eternall difcredite, to make white black, and light darknes. But as the Sun cannot alwaies be obfcured with cloudes, and as the

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gemme or pretious stone doeth not losse his vertue, though he be couered with filth & villanie: no more can my partiall cavillations impeſſe his Maieſties poſſibilities, or diminifh anie thing of his grandeur. For as the ſteill the more it is vsed the leſſe it doeth rouſte: a valiaunt knight the more he be aſſailed, the more appeareth his valour: and the more gold be tryed in the fire the more it is purified: Euen ſo the more his Maieſtie title be oppugned with frivolous ſophiſtique contradiction: the equitie and iuſtneſſe thereof is but the more manifeſted, as by this refutation of my former naughtineſſe, ſhall euidentlie appeare.

Then to come to the purpoſe, the ſcope of al my venemous ſatyre, was to proue that his Maieſtie had no iuſt title to the crown of England, neither by divyne nor humane Lawe, drawing my firſt Sophiſme from the Law of nature in this fort.

By right or lawe of nature nothing is myne nor thine: but all be common, nothing proper, and no proprietare: *Ergo*, be law of nature no proprietie can be acclaimed.

Heervnto is answered, that in the libertie vsurped by mee in confounding *Ius & Legem*, that is to ſay, Right and Law, (it being *genus*, and this *ſpecies*;) I hyde myſelf in many ſtaring holes, whereof by diſtinction of theſe two words I am eaſily cut off. Next the antecedent is falſ. For in the originall creation of all naturall things, when as there could be no other Lawe, but *Ius naturæ*, no *Ius gentium* nor civill, becauſe there

was

OF JOHN COLVILL.

was neither nation nor citie at that time, Adam was Lord and proprietar of that originall place, and of all naturall things therein contained: as in Genesis the first and most ancient history is expressed. So the antecedent being false, the consequent can inferre no verity.

My second caption is grounded vpon the Etymologie or definition of the Law of Nations in this sort.

The right of Nations is that which equallie is obserued among all Nations: but the right whereby his Maiestie would possesse the crown of England is not equallie obserued among all Nations: *Ergo*, &c.

By distinguishing or explaining the assumption the subtilty of this caption is elided: for although the Law of proximitie of blood (wherupon his Maiesties title is grounded) be not equallie obserued in all Nations, yet all Nations admit the generall: that is to say, to haue Magistrates and superior powers, confessing therewithal that these Magistrats or powers haue iust titles either by succession, election, or by some other forme agreeable to the nature of the countrie wher they are: so the particular diversitie of customes in succession proceeding from the diuersitie of civill and municipall Lawes in euery Realme, doeth not exclude the generall vniformitie of all Nations which (sauing in such as be altogether barbarous, & *quæ pro beluis habendæ sunt*) doe all holde that Magistrates haue iust titles to such kingdomes or Republicques as they be called vnto. And therefore his Maiesties tytle doth
not

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not difaccord, but accord with the right of Nations *in genere*.

My third captioun grounded on the civill Law is fo confused and cautelous, that it cannot well bee reduced to anie forme: I will therefore with this cleare demonstration open vp and impugne the same. As for the ciuil Law, if we meane the Romane or Imperiall to the Emperours, their felues haue confirmed and obserued *Iura sanguinis*, following *Edicta Prætorum*, *vnde Liberi*, *vnde Legitimi*, *vnde Cognati*. And if thereby we shall vnderstand the Municipall or common Law of euerie Realme: then may it be evidentlie prooued that euerie Realme hes provided and established fundamentall Lawes for maintayning the blood Royall in the right line. Whereby it is euident, that by the Law Ciuill, in what sense foeuer it be taken, his Maiestie hath a most iust claime and competition.

As to the Law Diuine, by the historie of Iacob & Esau may appeare, what respect and preferment was giuen to *Primogenitur*, or first-birth, seing Iacob, thogh he was elected, did pretend no right thereto, vntill his elder brother did renounce and abiure the same. And in Numeri the same prerogatiue is confirmed to the eldest: and euerie one ordained to succeede according to proximitie of blood. Heerewithall the lineal succession of the Kings of Iuda, from father to children, and failing thereof, to neereft kinsmen, doeth manifestlie proue this *Ius sanguinis* to haue bene authorized as wel in the Pallice, as amongst the people.

Neither

OF IOHN COLVILL.

Neither can that of Moifes in Deuteronom. be omitted: *vbi Odioſæ Filius primogenitus dilectæ Filio præferri iubetur*, ſuch was the reſpect of *primogenitur*. And albeit this right of *primogenitur* was altered in Iacob, Ioseph, Salomon, and ſome others: yet ſuch few particular exceptions, done at the ſpeciall command of God, (whoſe pleaſure is reaſon, and whoſe power heſ no limitation) doth not abolifh the generall Law more nor the particular fact of Phineas doth abolifh the general Law againſt homicide: or the Polygamy and inceſt of the Patriarkes, deſtroy the Lawe againſt Inceſt and Adulterie. Then the Law of God, (howfoeuer I haue wreſted the ſame in my former partialtie) doeth not derogate, but corroborate the title of my Soueraigne Lord, vnto the Realme foreſaid.

But the chief queſtion wherein I doe moſt cavill, and calumniat is this. If a Prince hauing *Ius ſanguinis* to an other Realme, (as this preſent King of France, Henrie the 4. beeing but King of Nauarre had to the Realme of France, and as my ſoueraigne Lord hath to that of England) if anie Poſitiue Law of that Realme where he ſhould ſucceede, can iuſtlye feclude him? Whereunto my anſwere is negatiue: impugning my former affirmation firſt in *Theſi*, ſyne in *Hypotheſi*, by theſe vrgent reaſons and examples following. *In Theſi*.

Firſt, Princes having no ſuperiour power but the ſupreame Godhead, they be only ſubiect to his lawes & *omnibus alijs legibus humanis ſoluti dicuntur*, and if of their

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their naturall pietie or goodnesse they shall humble them self to be subiect therevnto, (as Theodosius & Valentinian seemed to advyse them, saying, *Digna vox Principe Legibus se subditum esse fateri*) that subiection or rather moderation *est voluntatis, non necessitatis officium*. Which assertion is founded vpon good reason: for if forraine Lawes should binde them, then were they vassals & no Princes: if domestick lawes, then shoulde they be asfricted to punition, in case of transgression, and to be asfricted to punition, is a manifest subiection, no soveraigntie.

Card.
Foren.in
Cone.2.
Feli. in
cap.1.de.
constitut
Beor.in
Paragr.
1. de
jurid. om
nium iud.
in cōsue.
Bituri.
Paragr.
Opti-
mum. Au-
then.de
exhibe.
Reis.
Bald.in
cap. signi-
ficavit de
rescriptis.

Next, although it may be said that the Prince in his Fisque, and in manie vther things *quæ sunt privati iuris*, is subiect to the Lawe: yet neither may hee nor his crown be bound *in ijs quæ sunt iuris publici*. * *Atqui ius Regiæ successionis publicum est, cum omnes dignitates sint publicæ*. As also the same may bee verified by all the titles of the Lawe conceiued of Dignities and Magistrates, both in the Digestes and Code.

Thirdlie, if anie Lawe may be extended to the crowne or Prince, they suld bee expresse mentioned therein: speciallie, where the Law is exclusiue, diuinsiue, or obligatorie: and for this cause the Law excluding the femals *à feudis*, the Lawe of diuision of heritage *inter fratres & sorores*, the Lawe obliishing the successor with the goods of the defunct to pay his debts, binds not the crowne, when the crowne is not expressed, & *per irationis identitatem*, the Law *contra peregrinos* conceiued simply without mention of the crown may

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may not be extended therevnto. To affirme the contrary heerof, and to alleadge that *Iura successioneis & hæreditaria* which be made in any Realme shuld binde the Prince aswell as the people, because they bee made within the Realme which he hes or pretends to have is to flurre up sedition: yea it is as absurde and inept as to persue a Shiref or a whole Prouince for fulfilling all contracts made within his jurisdiction, or within the precinct of the said Prouince, or as who should think the Schoole-maister subiect to the order appointed by him self for ruling his Disciples.

Ferdlie, to this houre there can bee no example exhibite where anie having the title of blood to the crowne of England, with power and courage to bear out the same, that any Positiue law hath barred them. For proof whereof, I will vse onlie such examples as be most recent. The Positiue lawes made in Henrie the sixt his time, against Edward Duke of Yorke, did not impeshe him, nor his race, from the crowne, nor the bitter statuts made by Richard the vsurper against that most magnanime Prince of worthie memorie, Henrie the 7. did not seclude him from the right which he had both by God and nature. Yea in our dayes the manifold Lawes, and libels defamatours made against the most christian King present, could not impesh him from the crowne of France.

Now *in Hypothesi*: I cum to examine such Positiue Lawes as bee obiected against the King my foueraignes title, of which kinde there bee speciallie two:
One

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One auncient, an other later. To impugne the ancient I take my first argument from the Rubricke, or Intitulation thereof, bearing these words: *De ceux qui font nez outre ou de la mer. i. De trans mare natis*. By which Rubricke or argument, it is verie probable that this statute in the originall thereof, did not containe this word *Peregrinis*: for the tenour of a Lawe shoulde not exceed the nature or substance of the title, and so it should not preiudge his Maiestie, who is borne within the said Yland. As also to them that will indifferently marke the drift and intention of that statute, they shall finde it tende onelie against children borne without the four seas which compasse the said yland, whereby Scotland is no more fecluded nor Wales & Cornwall, And so it is not improbable, (which some alleadge) that the Rubrique foresaid should be *De Peregrinis trans mare natis, non De Peregrinis & trans mare natis*.

Secondlie, because the said Law was proponed in the 25. yeare of the raigne of Edward the 3. vpon a question mooued, If children borne out of his alleageance might possesse heritage within England. Whereunto was answered and enacted, that all children borne ouer sea, hauing their Parents at the time of their birth at the faith and obedience of the crowne of England, should enioy alike benefite and priuiledge as other heires borne within the Realm: so the statute is a generall affirmatiue for that particular: and that argument obiected thereupon, is *à contrario sensu* which kinde

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kinde of argument prooves nothing. For if I should say, *Omnis homo est animal: Ergo quod non est homo non est animal* the consequent wer false: and therefore is the decision of the Law, *Argumentum à contrario sensu nō procedit in verbis narratiuis Legis. Nec etiam in verbis dispositiuis Legis*, when that argument is inferred to correct or reforme the common Law (like as in this case it doth by drawing the Law *contra trans mare natos* in a specialitie contrair the common Lawe, to the prejudice of higher powers, which be not vnder the power or cōpasse of humane lawes) and for this cause the other ancient decision is contrair to their intention, wherein is said. *Argumentum à contrario sensu non procedit ubi sequitur correctio iuris cōmunis in specie.*: Thirdly the words of the said statute running vpon, and so oft expressing heires and inheritance, declares the meaning therof onlie to be directed for priuat persons, who must succede to their antecessors *Iure hæreditario*: for Princes succede aswell *Iure familiæ*, as *Iure hæreditario*, & *ordinie naturæ beneficio non hominis*, and are not as priuate men aftricted to enter *cum onere debitorum*, but they enter as pleases them, the one or the other way, to the end their crownes bee not exhaust and exforbed: so the said statute beeing conceaued for the vse of priuate men allanerly, that must enter as heires and no other way: it cannot preiudge his Maiestie who may enter an other way, viz. *per Ius familiæ* appertaining to all Princes Soveraigne.

Ferdlie, seeing this Law against strangers was fōunded

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Doct. ii.
cap. de
electio-
ne, & e-
lectorū,
poteſt
et in
cap. de.
lecto de
prebend.

.i. Cap:
a nobis
2. de sen-
ten. ex
commu-
& ubi Pa-
norm. in
cap. vni-
to de
quali &
stat. or-
dinat.

Oldrod.
con. 94.
& Moli-
nus in
confue-
tud. par.
& omnes
Doctor.

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ded vpon two respects which pertaine onlie to priuat men and not to Princes , it can no way strike vpon them. The first respect was grounded vpon the consideration of loyaltie *Quia duorum Principum summorum vnus subditus esse non potest*, agreeable vnto that of the Evangel, *Nemo potest duobus dominis seruire*. The other respect was to saue transport of gold and siluer , and other defended commodities , and to cut off the occasion of priuate intelligence & practises. For which cause in France was made *Ius albinatus*, as the practicians testifie. Now in the person of a Royall successor these considerations of loyaltie, transport, and intelligence are not to be feared.

Chop.
cap. 1.
Num. 33
Liu. i. de
Domain.

Fiftlie, in Realmes where most strait Lawes bee kept against strangers, as in France, that *Ius albinatus* forsaide, by which of necessity all strangers that would testate or succeed, they must be naturalized with this clause (*modò sint Regnicolæ*) yet Princes haue succeeded and do succede to great lands and Dignities within that Realme without anie benefite of naturalization, as the old Kings of Nauarre borne out of France, to manie fair lands in Guyen and Languedok. The D. of Lorane to the Dukerie of Bar: yea of old the kings of England to the ample Dukeries of Aquitane; Aniou, Normandie, and Britaignie, and that because soveraignes are presumed euerie one to be brethren to other: and being brethren, it wer indigne to esteeme them externe or strangers, and inept to make them subiect to Lawes of alleageance, which be onely proper

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per to subiects and vassals.

Sixtlie, the clause contained in the said pretended act, excepting *Les Enfants du Roy*, doth exeeme the king my soveraigne out of the compasse thereof: for that word *Enfans* is in the Latine *Liberi*: and be *Liberi* in the originall and right signification, is not only meaned children *in primo gradu*, but also *Nepotes & pronepotes & nati natorum, & qui nascentur ab illis. Et hos omnes qui ex nepotibus descendunt, lex duodecim tabularum filiorum nomine comprehendit.*

Pant. Paragr. de grad. affin. l. In-rife. Cali- ftr. paragr. liter. Paragr. de verbo. signifi.

Seuenthlie this Law foresaid *de albinatu*, although conceaued generallie, yet could it not bee extended to the crowne aswell as to the subiect: and therefore the wise and learned did deuise the Lawe Salique for the succession Royall.

Last, if this statute against forrain birth take place, then shall manie absurd inconuenients follow thereupon. First Princes (the ornament, bewtie, and light of the world, without whome were nothing but darknesse, disorder, & confusion) they should be in worse condition nor the moste ignoble subiect of their Realme: for by that Law subiects may euer succeed, hauing their parents subiects: but Princes cannot haue that immunitie, because their Parents were neuer subiects. Againe, if a Prince for honor of his Realm, or for securitie or enlarging therof, shall matche him self or his children with a forraine nation where hee or they beget children: what barbarous iniquitie wer it to preiudge the parents remaining abroad for fo

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honorable causes, or to hurte the innocent children for a matter which lay not in their power to mend.

Now for particular examples to illustrate these arguments, I alledge but a few both before and after the conquest, to shewe that foraine birth makes not incapabilitie to the crowne of England. Edward the King & Confessor before the conquest, did cal home out of Hungarie his Nevoy, Edward furnamed Vdisslae borne in Hungarie, who deing before the king his Vncle, the same King Edward declared Edgar Athelin sonne to the said Vdisslae borne also in Hungarie, to be iust heritor, albeit he was afterward defrauded thereof. And after the Conquest, Richard the first going to conqueis Ierusalem, institute his Nevoy Arthur, who was borne in Britaignie, & young Duke thereof, to be his succesor. Like as king Stephan and King Henrie the 2. were both borne in France, their Parents not being of the alleageance of England, & yet they were capable of the crowne of England.

The vther argument wherewith they impugne his Maiesties title, is grounded vpon a statute made in the 28. yeare of the raigne of Henrie the 8. of worthy memorie, wherein by consent of his Estates in Parliament is graunted vnto him full power by his letters Patents, or by his Testament signed with his hand, to declair, determine, and designe the successor of the crowne in case his owne children should faile, without issue of their owne bodies, and the said crown to bee established in the person of the said succesor by way

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way of reversion or retour, as they call it. By vertue of this authoritie or arrest of Parliament giuen to the said noble Prince, our aduersares doe alledge that by his latter Will or Testament, he did institute and ordaine the succession of Francoyse Countesse of Suffolke, his Neice by Marie his youngest sifter to succede, secluding altogether Margaret Queene of Scotland his eldest Sifter and her descēt. Whereunto I reply shortly, first by coniectures, next by peremptorie answeres.

It is not probable that a Prince so righteous, so wise, so kinde, as King Henrie the eight was known to be, that he should so vnkindlie and vnrighteouslie deale with his eldest sifter germane, as to spoile and degrade her and her innocent succession of all honor and expectation that God and nature had prouided for them.

Next, hee could not forget the commendable answer of Henrie the seauenth, his moste prudent father, who at the contract of marriage made betwixt King Iames the fourth of worthie memorie, and Ladie Margaret eldest daughter to the said King Henry the seauenth: fundry of his counsel labouring to emperish that marriage, said vnto him, that it might come to the great dishonour and discommoditie of the realme, in case, which was verie possible, that England shoulde fall to bee subiect to the Kings of Scotland: Whereunto the said noble Prince answered, that in case it fell out so, there was no inconuenient to En-

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gland : for as William the Conquerour attaining to the crowne of England , did ioine and subiect Normandie to England , and not England to Normandy, so Scotland beeing the least of the two Realmes should be subiected to England, if any such accident should arriue , because the lesser must cede and giue place to the greater. By which answere the saide noble Prince Henrie the eight knew full wel it was not his Fathers meaning to defraud his eldest daughter, nor her succeffion . And therefore it is altogether improbable that hee should haue forget the mind and intention of his magnanime Father , in a matter so recentlie and righteousslie done : and that with his owne speciall consent and good lyking .

Thirdlie, the said noble King, knowing what torte and wrong his Father had receaued of Richard the 3. by such partiall exceptions made against his title, and publishing so bitter lawes against him, he coulde not be so obliuious, much lesse iniurious, as to fall in the same error, which both he himselfe , and all iust men did so much abhorre in the person of the said vsurper.

Ferdlie in respect that about the same time when the said pretended Testament is alledged to be made it is certainlie knowne that the said noble King Henrie the eight, did treat a mariage betwixt Prince Edward his sonne & Mary of Scotland his petite Niece, for which cause it were out of all purpose to think that hee should at one time deale so kindlie and vnkindly

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kindelic : as vnder pretext of fuch newe affinitie to preiudge his neareſt Niece , of all her lawfull eſperances.

Laſt, ſhall we beleewe that King Henrie the 8. who was a miracle, yea a mirrour in his age of all magnificence appertaining to a Chriſtian Prince , ſhould haue bene inferior in iuſtice and pietie to Iohn Ga-leas Duke of Millaine, who ſhall bee for euer praiſed for his equitie in preferuing the prerogatiue of birth-right. For going to depart, he called his children, & ſaid: *O dura Lex ó dura natalitij juris prærogativa, quæ æquales genere, ac natalibus inæquali ſorte ſeiungis ? Dolebat enim Iani filij ſtolidioris annos, virtuti Philippi Mariæ anteferri.*

My peremptorie anſweres be theſe.

The firſt is grounded vpon this deciſion. *Nec verò ſi aliquis Rex conſenſum ſtatuum haberet, vt priuaret regno filiũ aut proximum, poſſet tamen id iure facere: quia qui priuare non poterit, non debet id facere cuius prætextu per Legem inducatur priuatio.* For it is ſo cleare as the Sunne at mid day, & all the Doctours both of the Canon and Civill Lawe, in one voice agree thereunto , that no Prince nor eſtate *ſeparatim vel coniunctim*, hes power to transfer the crowne from one to an other, namely, where the crowne is ſucceſſiue. For if it were lawfull to reiect one, and mak choiſe of an other, then ſhould ſucceſſion be turned in election, which were abſurde. And heerevpon is there manie deciſions of the Doctours, whereof I repeat a few. One of Iaſon ſaying, *Quod regna deferantur lege Diuina, naturali, conſuetudinaria & Canonica, primogenito: per rationem huius textus, Nemo poteſt diſponere*

L. Nem.
poteſt.
Parag.
leg. 1.

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nere regna, nisi secundum Legis dispositionem. Idem Felinus asserit & Ioannes Andreas Cap. licet De voto, Abbas cap. intellectu, de Iure iurando. Vbi dicit Reges non posse priuare consanguineos spe regni, & secundum Innocentium. Nec patres Reges possunt primogenitos exheredare aut minuere iura primogenituræ. Benedictus in cap. Reynutius in verbo, in eodem testamento, Quia Regna deferuntur iure sanguinis & quæ naturæ beneficio competunt liberis exheredatione paterna tolli non possunt, nec etiam statuum Regni ministerio in remotiorem transferri. Denique, cum Dominus non tulerit Israelitas, imo dederit illos in direptionem, quod spreta domo Dauid, sibi Regem Ieroboam filium Nabath constituissent, negari nequit quantum partiales Regnorum translationes à propinquiorebus ad remotiores, non solum legibus humanis, verum etiam voluntati Diuina repugnent.

n cap.
here.
es. de
Testamē
Cap.
randi
e sup.
end.
eglig.
Prelato
16
aldus
on. 366.

Secondlie, the said pretended Testament was supposititious, & contriued by such as meant to defraud both the heires female of the said king Henrie the 8. aswell as these of his eldest sister, which did manifestly appeare immediatlie after the death of the said young Prince Edward, when as the Lord Gilford eldest son to the Duke of Northumberland did marie with Ladie Ieane, eldest daughter to the foresaid Ladie Francoyse Duchesse of Suffolke, to whome the said Testament designed the succession: the meaning of which marriage was to erect the said Ladie Ieane, and to deject the two innocent and moste illustre Enfants of Henrie the eight, Queene Marie, and Queene Elizabeth.

Thirdlie, of the witnesse that had signed the saide pretended Testament three of the most honest & famous

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mous thereof, vppon remorse of conscience before Queene Marie their Sovereigne Lady and her honorable Counsell, did depone, confesse, and sweare, that the said Testament was neuer signed by the said king Henrie, but was sealed by one William Clerk with the kings seale, when as the king was either dead, or in the last article or agonie of death, hauing no sense, knowledge, or remembrance: and these three witnesses were the Lord Paget, Sir Edmond Montague Knight cheef Iustice and the said William Clerk affixer of the seale as is aforesaid. Vpon which testification the same beeing duellie tried, by all circumstances requisit, that it was not by corruption, suborning, nor menaces exhibite by the said witnesses: the saide Queene Marie, to the honour of God and her Realm, for defence of the verity, iustice, and dignitie of the succession Royall, and for auoyding of manie inconuenients that thereof might haue ensued by the partialitie of the said pretended Testament, caused the exemplar, memoriall thereof, which was in the Chancellarie, to be cancellat, lacerate, and destroyed as a thing indigne to haue place amongst the true and authentick registers of so noble a Realme. By which genereux and iust act, she merites no lesse praise nor the Romanes and Ephesians, the one defacing the name of the Tarquins for the meschant act of Tarquinius Superbus: the other making a Law prohibitiue to all historians, neuer to mention the name of Impius Erostratus within their commentaries.

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But fearing leaft prolixitie make mee tedious, I retranche and omitt manie pithie allegations that might be pertinentlie opponed to the aduerfare, referring a more ample difcourfe vpon this fubieft, to more leaſure: or rather, to one more verfed in Lawes and histories, nor I am: cloſing this ſeſtion of my Palinod with a double admiration.

In the one I cannot enough maruell howe our aduerſaries can obieft ſo confidently againſt vs this law poſitiue againſt ſtrangers, ſeeing they think the poſitiue Law ſalique ſhould haue no place nor power againſt their proximitie of blood in France. *Et ſi identitatis ratio ſequenda eſt, æqualium æqualis eſſe debet conſideratio & quod ſibi fieri nolunt, alteri facere non debent.* And ſo they ſhould in reaſon think their law tranſmarine, or peregrine, to haue no more authoritie againſt his Maieſtie, nor they would wiſh the Lawe Salique to haue againſt their ſelf according to old deciſions. *Patiendæ ſunt Leges quas ipſi tulimus, & Quod quiſque iuris in alios ſtatuit, ipſe eodem iure teneatur.*

My other admiration is, that a Nation ſo wiſe, politick and prudent, ſhould not for-ſee the inquencheable combuſtion that may bee kindled within their owne bowels by eſta bliſhing, or maintaining Lawes vniuſtlic made againſt iuſt ſucceſſors to their crowne: which kind of partialitie as it hes euer benee the peſt & perdition of all common wealthes vſing the ſame, ſpeciallie of ſuch as haue bene moſt famous and glorious, ſo can it not in this age produce anie better effects,

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fects, but to distract the people vpon diuersitie of respects, to follow diuerse and dangerous factions.

Which inconuenient no other Christian Nation had more need to prevent nor the flourishing Realm of England: for as they are wealthy, so are they much enuied for their felicitie, whereby it cannot faile if anie debate be for their crowne betwixt contrair competitors, but their Realme shall be a stage or playing fielde to all Nations: the one partie inuyting some forainers to his aide, and his aduersare dooing the like: knowing that no stranger shal be vnwilling therunto, some vpon auarice, some vpon malice, some for both: euerie one already attending to set vp their rest vpon hope to repaire their aduerse or base fortunes, with the ruine of that most noble, famous, and vertuous Realme, which of old for the fertilitie of the soile, and rare bewtie of the inhabitants was called the Realme of God, whome of his great mercie with ardet vovos and humble supplication I implore, long (yea euer) to preferue them from such destanie, dyfaster, and desolation.

As to that where I moste irreuerentlie and iniuriousslie alledge his Maiestie to bee made incapable by reason of a clause contained in the act of Affociation, made at Westminster, Anno which his Maiesties mother of good memorie did signe (as is alledged.) In this iniust allegation, I confes a malicious & impudent error: for no such clause is contained in the Affociation, and though it were contained, yet
what

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what her Maieftie did consent or yeeld vnto in her captiuitie (& *propter metum qui potest cadere in sexum constantiorem*) is not obligatorie to her self, much lesse to her innocent successor, whose title is *Maior omni exceptione*: For probation whereof, I will not reckon his auncient descent from the Royall blood of England, (as that of Malcome the 3 called Canmore with the Niece of Edward the Confessor before the conquest, nor that of King Iames the first, with the petite Niece of Iohn of Gant Duke of Lancafter) but I holde mee at a probation so patent and recent, as no man can pretend ignorance or obliuion thereof, affirming (as the trueth is) that his Maieftie hes the iust title *ex vtroque Parente*: For being the vndoubted heire of Margarete eldest daughter to King Henry the 7. he must also be the vndoubted heritour of the crowne, after the death of Queene Elizabeth her Maiefty present, who is the only graff or branche remaining of the masculine descent, or of the sonnes of the said Henry the 7. In whose person by vertue of his marriage with the righteous heire of the house of York, like as hee was the vndoubted heire of the house of Lancafter, the crown of England was infallibly established, and the two roses vnited. And the cleernesse of this Pedegree ioined with the knowledge I had thereof, maketh my offence so much the more inexcusable, I being a cōscienceles contradictor to my owne knowledge, committing therby not only an civill heresie, but euē a sin against the holy spreit in oppugning the known veritie, God most iustly punishing my pride, adding vn-

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to the multitude of my other fins, this most capital & damnable confort of desperatiō, which by no meanes I had escaped, if I had obstinaty perseuered in my former induration, yea notwithstanding my vnseizeit repentance I should yet doubt of Gods mercy, if former examples did not assure mee. But when I see a chief Apost. against his knowledge denying his Master, repenting, confiding, & receiuing pardon, I begin to thinke that it is naturall to sin, brutall to perseuere, Christian to repent & diuelish to dispair, *Et quia peccantium partus optimus pœnitentia, Et pœnitentium statio tutissima confidentia. Sed quia veram pœnitentiam pudor peccati commissi præcedit,* I will with Miriam be ashamed of my self as if my father had spitted in my face, I wil be hūbled with the Publican, confes my insolence with the forlorne sonne, repent & weep bitterly with Peter, & confide with the faithfull Brigand. Knowing there is no sinne can exceed the mercy of God, who descended from heauen to earth, and from thence did againe ascend to heauē, to saue the sinners & not the iust, the Publican & not the Pharisie, leauing behind him many pithy arguments vnto such as would be called his Disciples, perswading them to mercy after his example. Whereunto the most noble both fidell & infidell Princes haue euer bene inclyned, according to that of the Poet, *Quo maior quisque est magis est placabilis ira, Et faciles motus mens generosa capit, &c.* The great monarch Iulius Cæsar culd forget nothing but iniuries: & Titus called *delitiæ generis humani* thought the day out spent, wherein he had not done some work of cōpassion.

And

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And the Royall Prophet sayes, *Ne tradas bestijs animam confitentem tibi*: whereby is meant, as the learned affirm, that confessing penitents should not be deuoured nor driuen to desperate courses. By which clement moderation this present most christian King hath so honored, enriched and strengthened himselfe with the harts of the people, as is incredible: who when they were most obstinate and opiniatre against him, his Maiestie laked not aboutifeus to animate him to fire and sworde, and to all violent vindications vppon his inobedient townes and subiects, yet his answere euer was, *Voulez vous que ie ne soy que Roy des cendres & des cemeters.*

obstinate
incōdiarij

But his patience aboue all toward George L'apstre (a man both learned and eloquent) is remarkeable: for notwithstanding the said George had written many iniurious and irreuerent pamphlets against his person and title, yet his Maiestie receaued him gratiousslie without recitall of anie offence past. For which benignitie the said George hes changed his style, & hath alreadie begun in a treatise moste exquisite written, to conferre, yea, to prefer his Soueraigne in prowesse, pitie, and in all other Princelie parts to Iulius Cæsar, and some day will serue him for a Virgil and Homer.

To this fame purpose of clemencie Clemens Romanus in *constitutionibus Apostolicis lib. 1. inquit, Æquum est vt in iudicando Dei sententiam sequamur, & vt ille iudicat peccatores, modo pœnitentes, ita & tu iudices. Nonne Dauidem in puluere stratum, Ionam in ventre Balenæ lugentem, Ezechia lachry-*

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lachrymantem, Manassem in vinculis languentem, &c. crimine liberauit? Publicani, Petri, Magdalene, Filij perdit, Ovis errantis exempla & parabola misericordiam diuinam abunde prædicant. A sceleribus peccantium, non ab eorum consortio abstinendum Christi cum Publicanis conuersatio indicat. Sed hic iudicio opus est, quibus parcendum, quibus non. Hactenus Clemens. Cui non ineptè respondere videtur Cicero, 2. de natura Deorum dicens: Si pœnitentibus grates habendæ sunt, illis fiant qui voluntariè, non necessariè, liberi, non captiui, resistunt.

Of which number although I may without ostentation affirme my self, yet vnflattering my self I must also confesse, that no satisfaction, no expiation, no merite of myne present or future, can deserue mercy, without his Maiesties extraordinar grace: for in all degrees that a passionat lyer, calumniator, blasphemer, yea an Atheist could in thought, word, or write offend his Prince, I haue offended: and in such sort, as if his Maiestie shall think my crime irremissible, hee neither ceases to be mercifull, nor no other offender should take occasion to doubt thereof, because none hes or can offend so desperatelie as I haue done. The remorse and sorrow whereof hath so cauterized my wounded conscience, that I protest before God and his holie Angels, neuer to pardon my self, howsoever his Maiesties pleasure be to accept of my penitencie. But to close this digression, since the practise of this mercie and benignitie (which is the visible image of God) was neuer more liuelie expressed in any Prince nor in my soveraigne Lord, to perswad him vnto that which hee dailie practises, were superfluous, or to
bring

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bring anie other example but himself (the exemplar and pattern thereof) were a matter iniurious. For what is the man of account within his Realme, that hath not tasted of his mercie? Or who vnfenzetlie repenting, needed euer to doubt of reconciliation, and not only of reconciliation, but of reward? as one not deluyting in the blood of his people, but in their beneuolence, a father to orphelings, a warrand to wedowes, a fortresse to forlorne, a refuge to al that haue recourse vnto him: and in one word,

*Est piger ad penas Princeps, ad præmia præceps:
Quique dolet quoties cogitur esse ferox.*

O miserable unhappie wretch that I am in offending so beastlie a Maiestie so bening, and yet neither miserable nor unhappie in respect of his naturall humanitie which holdes mee in hope against hope.

*Nam mihi spes superest cum te mitissime Princeps,
Spes mihi, respicio cum mea facta, cadit.*

Ipsè licet sperare vetes, sperabimus, atque

Hoc vnum, liceat te prohibente, fore.

Sed redeunt abeuntque mihi variantque timores,

Et spem placandi dantque, negantque tui.

Parce precor fulmenque tuum & fera tela reconde,

Heu nimium misero cognita tela mihi.

Parce pater Patriæ, nec nominis immemor huius,

Tandem placandi spem mihi redde tui.

Now for Catastrophe of this my recantation, since I haue refelled my former cauillations so penitently and pithyly as I could: Firſt I humblie implore the beneuolence and pitie of the Reader, & of all others
ſkanda-

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skandalized by my lewd example, seeing my deplorable estate is more to bee pitied, nor enuied: as also though I haue most worthelie procured the ire of all honest men, yet my misery makes me vnworthy thereof. For what am I but a dead Dog, *stipula sicca, & folium quod vento rapitur.* To eik affliction to my affliction, *est cum larvis luctari,*

*Quid iuvat extinctos ferrum dimittere in artus,
Non habet in nobis iam nova plaga locum.*

Next if anie thing be omitted herein that may be thought necessarie for his Maiesties satisfaction, beeing aduertised thereof I shall indelaitlie adde and enlarge the same: Protesting notwithstanding, that if I haue forget anie materiall point, it is of no fraud or malice, but for lack of better knowledge, as by the originall inuēctiue all written with my owne hand, & deliuered to an honorable person his Maiesties most loyall subiect will in the owne time appeare. Moreover, if by anie malicious person anie thing bee added or put out in my name, more nor I haue said, I shall God willing disburthen my self dewtifullie, & charge the authors thereof in such sort, as perhaps shall bee to his Maiesties contentment, and litle to their credit, and that indelaitly after the same shall come to my knowledge.

Thirdlie, since God of his infinite mercy hes blessed our poore Realme of Scotland with a Prince so learned, so wise, so clement, so godly: my exhortation is that no offender his present subiect, or that may be hereafter, doubt of his benignitie and grace, seeing

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the daily experience we haue of the fame: speciallie whofoeuer hes priuatlie or opinlie participate with mee of my lewdnes or rebellion, I beseech them also for safetie both of soule and bodie, to ioine with mee in my rescipience: for they may be well assured that the hand of the Omnipotent (if not his Maiesties hand) will finde them out some day, either by sea or land to their confusion, if they incline not to speedie and penitent conuersion. And heerewithall I would wish such as haue bene so happy as not to offend, that they may remaine constant and loyall to the end, to the effect that all may vnanimelie concurre to increas his Maiesties greatnes, and to advance his most equitable possibilities, burying their own particular querrels, and abstaining vpon whatsoever respect to make

Sturres *Remuemens or commotions within his Realm, much lesse against himself. For if the most inward and irreprehensible seruants of God in ages past (as is before said) did for conscience sake without murmuration or mutinerie, obey idolatrous and infidell Princes, what reason can we haue that be corrupted, & in a corrupted age, to trouble or inquiet the Christian and moderate estate and gouernement of a Prince so moderate, so Christian, and one so accomplisht with all vertues necessarie for his Royall vocation (*Pietatis et Iustitiæ prototocus*).

Last of all my obleist dutie binding mee in all leasome manner to wish and procure the felicity of the Realme of England, for manifold courtesies there receyued:

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ceyued : (which with great fulnesse according to my meannesse I shall alwaies remember) I cannot omit to present vnto them this friendlie remonstrance, wherein the captious interpretations of cunning persons wherunto I shall be subiect, cannot impeshe mee to vtter the sinceritie of a well affected friend, affirming that the cheef worldly meane to continue their long enioyed prosperitie, is, tymoullie to set their minde vpon the King my Soueraigne (their vndoubted second person) by giuing vnto him some certain signification of his due, and of their dutie. For their silence is not without probable suspition that their mindes bee inclined and directed some other way, whereby his Maiestie may take iust occasion to establish his partie by some other forraine course. It is not yet so long agoe since the calamitie procured by the doubtful succession of the houses of York & Lancaster, distracting that nation in contrair factions, but that the deplorable memorie thereof, may yet serue for a present caveat and instruction. To preuent such dangerous inconuenients, God hes offered vnto them a meane and way, which they may (or rather should) with reason, policie, and saue conscience vse and embrace, as a singular blessing prouided to increffe their happinesse, and to continue them in their former securitie. For reason and good conscience doth recommend vnto them the King of Scotland, because he is the righteous successor : and policie will perswade his preferment, because he is a Prince, and all other Cō-

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petitors within the Iland bee but subiectes: he hes an auncient Realm to ioine vnto theirs: he hes a princelie power to maintaine them against their enemies. He hes the vniuersall loue and amity of all Christian Princes, by vertue whereof, if they were once known to be his subiects, their merchands might traffick alwhere, without danger: and their Realme needed not to feare anie foraine inuasion. But if confiding in positiue Lawes and in their owne power, they minde to bar him, notwithstanding his iust title, and all other commodities which he might import vnto them, let them at least be terrified from such desperate induration, by example of such as heretofore haue attempted, and repented such like machinations. For God Almighty is the authour and autorizer of all right, speciallie in Realmes. For defence whereof amongst his owne people, he hes not onelie raised vp extraordinarie both men and wemen, as Iosue, Sampson, Debora, and the rest of the Iudges to bee his champions: but he hes vsed spirituall powers, yea sometyme dumb elements, to execute his vengeance vpon vniust vsurpers with their consorts and complices. His Angell destroyed the host of Sennacherib. The red sea deuoured Pharao and all his chariots. The fire was a fortresse, and the cloudes a cabinet for his people, til they wer brought in possession of their promised inheritace from which no might, no flight, could seclude them. All histories be full of such examples, but for auoyding tediousnesse, I content mee with that

that onelie of the present King of France (the ornament of this age) because it is moste recent, and remarkable. What leagues? what proiects? what *monopolies? what Machiauelian machinations was made against him? But all in vaine. *Lapidem quem reprobauerunt ædificantes, hic factus est in caput anguli. Mirabile est in oculis nostris. sed hoc factum est à Domino, contra quem nō est potestas, non est consilium.* Plota

By this my remonstrance my meaning is not feditioullie to stirre vp anie faction or partie against her gracious Maiestie of England during her time: For with my hart I wish vnto her a long, peaceable, and prosperous raigne, knowing that her naturall inclination to justice, kindnes, and equitie, will not suffer her to be unkinde to her nearest neighbour, Coufing and moste faithfull confederate, nor so improident for the securitie of her people, (amongst whom shee hes so long liued lyke the louing Pelican) as to leaue them in such incertitude after her death, that they shall not know whome to obey: much lesse that they shall establish anie Lawe to the preiudice of the lawfull successor, whose patience should be a great persuasion to rander vnto him such arles and assurance of his possibilitie: *Quia vt intrantes egredientium moram, quantumuis prolixam, patienter ferre debent: ita egredientes aut possessores successoribus certa intrandi argumenta præstare tenentur: ne hi vana spe, illi quotidianis expostulationibus fatigati, querantur.* And as all louing the prosperitie of the Island do wish this mutual correspondance to bee betwixt their Maiesties: so no doubt the reciproque

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practise thereof, should produce great loue and contentment betwixt them, with no small felicitie present and future to the said Iland. And this is the only scope and marke that I aime at: as one now abhorring all ambition, vnfit for anie preferment, scorning all flatterie, fearing no temporall feare, nor establishing my felicitie vpon fragill worldlie esperances. For my foote is already in the graue. *Choreæ, balnea, symphoniaci, symposia. f. l. & absynthum. Cibus nauseam, potus vomitum prouocat. Dies noctibus, diebus noctes grauiores. Appropinquant aui in quibus dicam, non placent. Commouentur custodes domus, otiosæ sunt molentes in minuto numero, tenebre scunt videntes per foramina, consurgitur ad vocem volucris. Amygdalus florere incipit, locusta inpinguari, dissipari capparitis, funiculus argenteus conteri, & hydria aurea rumpi.* Age and sicknesse the sergeants of death already charges me, personallie apprehended, (least I should pretend ignorance) to pay the due of nature. *Et somni breues, in somniisque perturbati Sororem pro foribus præstolari indicant. Dies mei præterierunt, cogitationes meæ dissipatæ sunt, torquêtes animam meam. Sicut arcus aut arator incuruatus sum. Itaque vado dicere putredini pater meus es, mater mea & soror mea vermibus.* In this last period of my lothsom life, these temporall trüperies of fortune can yeeld mee no profite.

Non domus aut fundus, non æris aceruus et auri,

Ægroto Domini deducunt corpore febres.

Neither can they pleasure me anie more

Quàm lippum pictæ tabulæ, fomenta podagram,

Auriculas cytharæ collecta sorde dolentes:

So since I am inutile to the world, and the world vncouth to mee, my pleasure shal be a privat and re-
teered

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teered life, if I can attaine thereunto, and I will study to hurde vp all my treasure where roust cannot rotte, nor theef robbe. To this effect as Elias ascending did willingly let his mantle fall, that it shoulde not empeph his transumption, so will I not bee ashamed to quite the mantle of hypocrisy wherewith to this hour I haue couered a multitude of greeuous vices, which (allace) with long habitude haue so possessed and ouerruled mee, that the more I should liue, the more I should offend God and my neighbour. *Propterea tædet me vitæ meæ, et cupio dissolui et esse cum Christo.* I haue too long remained in the Tentes of Kedar, *et in diuersorijis Mesech*, where I haue bene a sojourner, no Citizen, a Pilgrime, no Proprietare. Now it is high time for me after so long exile and peregrination in this worldly desert and wilderneffe, to seek out my promised inheritance, from which my long abode, nor great vnloyaltie (God assisting mee with his grace) cannot exclude mee. For by example of the forlorne Sonne, & Publicane, I feare neither my insolence nor vnworthineffe. By example of the labourers I hope to be rewarded as soone, (if not before them) as them that haue trauelled from the break of day, notwithstanding my latenes. And by example of the faithfull Brigand I expect in the last article of my life, that ioyfull verdite and sentence that was pronounced vnto him:

Hodiè mecum eris in Paradiso.

Io. Coluille.

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